

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 735

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Knoxville Fire Fighters Association Local #65 upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should join in the celebration of momentous milestones in the storied histories of those venerable organizations that bravely answer the call of duty to serve and protect the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such invaluable institution is the Knoxville Fire Fighters Association Local #65 (KFFA), which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, the KFFA represents the professional firefighters of the Knoxville community, working to protect and foster the lives of those stalwart men and women who risk their own health and safety to watch over the people of their community; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 1918, twenty-four delegates united and conferred to form the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). Among those twenty-four delegates was L.G. Lewis, a delegate from Knoxville, and through his leadership, KFFA Local 65 was born; and

WHEREAS, since that day 100 years ago, the KFFA has lived by its mission to protect the protector and make a difference in the lives of the firefighters it represents by being their voice, improving their livelihood, and making their jobs safer; and

WHEREAS, along with keeping firefighters safe, the KFFA is involved with a number of charitable endeavors, including the American Red Cross Knoxville Chapter, Camp Phoenix, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Charities, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee, Smoky Mountain Children's Home, the

Grandparents as Parents Program, East Tennessee Children's Hospital, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and the University of Tennessee Cancer Institute; and

WHEREAS, for a century, the members of the KFFA have gallantly answered the call to serve as guardians of Knoxville, bravely and capably protecting both its citizens and fellow firefighters; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize the sterling members of this invaluable institution, both past and present, as they are a credit not only to the community of Knoxville but to the entire State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the Knoxville Fire Fighters Association Local #65 on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, salute the dedicated service and steadfast bravery of all its members, and extend to each of them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.