

H. Res. 80

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

February 15, 2005.

Whereas every State in the United States has established a fire chiefs association;

Whereas fire chiefs associations provide comprehensive and integrated statewide public safety efforts, thereby enhancing the quality of life of American citizens by reducing the effects of fire, medical, and environmental emergencies;

Whereas all fire chiefs associations serve to provide educational resources to firefighters, facilitate information exchange and regional cooperation between firefighting entities, and provide professional development workshops and training to all statewide and regional firefighters;

Whereas the mission statements of all fire chiefs associations have continuously broadened beyond the original goals of working for the promotion of fire prevention and protection from and extinguishment of fires to keep pace with the new challenges and demands facing the 21st Century, working in conjunction with the Nation's efforts in securing the homeland;

Whereas to accommodate the homeland security needs facing the Nation, the mission statements of fire chiefs associations today include facilitating the exchange of regional

and national information, organizing annual conferences and symposiums to discuss ways of improving life-saving procedures, assisting in research studies, assisting in the development of public education in fire prevention programs, and supporting and encouraging the delivery of prehospital emergency medical services by the fire service to relieve human suffering;

Whereas the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association serves as a fine example of such a State fire chiefs association, which has recognized the aforementioned needs and broadened its mission to serve not only statewide interests, but regional and national interests;

Whereas upon realizing the need for regional cooperation toward the advancement of fire service in the United States, the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association established the Mid-Atlantic Expo and Symposium, which annually draws from States within the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States and which serves to educate firefighters on new techniques; and

Whereas on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary, the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, will be once again hosting their annual Mid-Atlantic Expo and Symposium, on February 24, 2005: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives commends all fire chiefs associations on the outstanding service that they provide to the citizens of the United States.

Attest:

Clerk.