



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' DAY AND IN APPRECIATION OF THE BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, ITS REPRESENTATION THROUGH LOCAL 718 AND THE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS OF MASSACHUSETTS, AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, May 4 is recognized globally as International Firefighters' Day, a day to honor the bravery, dedication, and sacrifices of firefighters who protect our communities; and

WHEREAS, this observance was established in 1999 following the tragic loss of five firefighters in a wildfire in Linton, Victoria, Australia, symbolizing the global unity and commitment of firefighters to safeguard lives and property; and

WHEREAS, firefighters in Boston and across Massachusetts, represented by Boston Firefighters Local 718 and the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts (PFFM), demonstrate unwavering courage and professionalism in the face of emergencies, often risking their own lives to save others; and

WHEREAS, the City of Boston acknowledges the critical role that firefighters play not only in emergency response but also in community engagement, fire prevention education, and public safety initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Boston Firefighters Local 718, established in 1942, represents over 1,500 members of the Boston Fire Department, including uniformed firefighters, fire alarm operators, and retirees. Local 718 has been steadfast in its mission to advance the moral, economic, and social standing of its members, advocating for improved working conditions, safety standards, and benefits that reflect the dignity of their heroic calling; and

WHEREAS, the **Boston Fire Department**, established in 1678 as the first paid fire department in the United States, continues to serve as a model of excellence and dedication in fire services and emergency response; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Boston City Council honors and expresses its deepest gratitude to all firefighters for their selfless service and dedication to protecting our city; and further recognizes and commends the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts and Boston Firefighters Local 718 for their steadfast commitment to the welfare of their members and the safety of our communities; and acknowledges the exemplary leadership of Boston's own Edward A. Kelly, who has served as president of both Local 718 and the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts, and currently serves as General President of the International Association of Fire Fighters, representing over 344,000 members across the United States and Canada; and encourages all residents to acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contributions of our firefighters, not only on International Firefighters' Day but throughout the year.