



SPONSOR: Rep. Carson & Sen. Ennis & Sen. Paradee
Reps. Baumbach, Brady, Briggs King, Bush, Collins,
Dukes, Gray, Q. Johnson, Kowalko, Lynn, Mitchell,
Morris, Ramone, D. Short, Spiegelman, K. Williams,
Yearick; Sens. Delcollo, Hansen, Hocker, Lawson, Lopez,
Pettyjohn, Poore, Richardson, Townsend, Walsh

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

RECOGNIZING JANUARY 9, 2019 AS "DELAWARE WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER DAY".

1 WHEREAS, wildfires are a persistent threat to human lives, property, and valuable natural resources; and

2 WHEREAS, since it was established by the Delaware General Assembly in 1927, one of the primary missions of
3 the Delaware Forest Service (DFS) has been to combat the danger of uncontrolled forest fires; and

4 WHEREAS, the Delaware Forest Service is the lead agency for wildfire suppression in the First State, providing
5 training, equipment, and financial assistance to volunteer fire companies and community organizations; and

6 WHEREAS, since 1996, hundreds of individuals have completed basic and advanced certifications in all aspects
7 of wildland firefighting – compliant with standards set by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG); and

8 WHEREAS, Delaware wildland firefighters have battled fires in many states, including: Alaska, Washington,
9 Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Idaho, Georgia, Virginia, and Minnesota; and

10 WHEREAS, in 2018, Delaware sent two Type 2-IA crews, two engine crews, and several single resources to help
11 the national firefighting effort:

12 1. From July 3 through July 20, Delaware's Type 2-IA crew (DES #1) went to Colorado where they battled
13 several wildfires and completed fuel reduction projects at the Pike and San Isabel National Forests.

14 2. From August 4 to August 23, 2018, the Delaware Forest Service dispatched a second Type 2-IA crew
15 (DES #2) to the Northern Rockies, where they fought wildfires, including the Copper Mountain Fire, near Eastport,
16 Idaho on the Canadian border, and the Cougar Fire, a 5,880-acre blaze in steep terrain near Hope, Idaho.

17 3. From August to September, the DFS dispatched its Type 6 engine and two crews to southern California:

18 - From July 27 to August 17, Delaware's first engine crew fought the Ferguson Fire, which burned 97,000 acres in
19 Yosemite National Park.

20 - From August 14 to September 4, Delaware's second engine crew worked on the Front Fire in the Sequoia
21 National Forest.

22 4. From July 10 to July 27, John Petersen served as an Intelligence Support Specialist at the Eastern Area
23 Coordination Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

24 5. From July 12 to July 27, Kesha Braunskill served as an Expanded Dispatch Support Dispatcher in Casper,
25 Wyoming on the Badger Creek Fire in the Northern Rockies.

26 6. From August 27 to September 1, DDA's Jimmy Kroon was a GIS Specialist in Nevada on the Sugarloaf
27 Fire, and from September 2 to 13, served at the Great Basin Coordination Center in Salt Lake City.

28 WHEREAS, Delaware's Wildland Fire Crews and Engine Crews performed above and beyond the call of duty by
29 enduring many days far from home and family performing extreme physical labor in challenging terrain, thin air, thick
30 vegetation, heavy smoke, and hot ash.

31 NOW, THEREFORE:

32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 150th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
33 Senate concurring therein, that January 9, 2019 is recognized as "Delaware Wildland Firefighter Day"

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Delawareans should appreciate and recognize the selfless and courageous
35 efforts demonstrated by Delaware's wildland firefighters as they proudly represent Delaware on national fire incidents.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution recognizes January 9, 2019, as "Wildland Firefighter Day".