

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

Whereas: The Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters has been in existence for over 100 years, and

Whereas: The OAPFF Executive Board has identified members who have 50 or more consecutive years of membership in this organization, and

Whereas: The OAPFF Executive Board recognizes that the work and dedication of these members be acknowledged and applauded, and

Whereas: The foundation of the OAPFF is solid due to these members, now therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this 53rd OAPFF Conference recognize the years of challenging work and dedication given to this organization by the following members

Forrest Buckley, Local 48	Michael Massie, Local 1723
Jerry Cashdollar, Local 109	Jimmie Ogg, Local 291
James Crabill, Local 136	Thomas Rave, Local 48
Thomas Dauchy, Local 494	Paul Ritzman, Local 329
Thomas Donovan, Local 48	Richard Rockwell, Local 1120
Honor Friesner, Local 291	George Rusiska, Local 266
Harry Hiles, Local 291	Robert Shields, Local 67
Gerald Holland, Local 494	Robert Short, Local 20
Roy Hollenbacher, Local 334	Gary West, Local 291
Albert Juszli, Local 329	

and be it further

Resolved: That a copy of this resolution be signed by the President and Secretary/Treasurer, framed, and sent to the above honored members.

Submitted By:

OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee:

Whereas: Brother Robert Short has been an active Member of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 20 in Hamilton for over 61 years, with 18 of those years serving as Local President, and

Whereas: Brother Robert Short has also been a member of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters for the same 61 years, and

Whereas: Brother Robert Short served as Secretary/ Treasurer of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters from 1980 - 1982, and

Whereas: Brother Robert Short has been recognized and held certification through the National Association of Parliamentarians, establishing the highest standards for parliamentarian professionalism, and

Whereas: Brother Robert Short has served faithfully as Parliamentarian for the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters Biennial Conference the past 36 years, with loyalty, honor, distinction, and dedication, and

Whereas: Brother Short has announced that at the conclusion of this 53rd Biennial Conference he will be closing this chapter in his life-long union career, stepping down as OAPFF Parliamentarian, now therefore be it

Resolved: That Brother Robert Short be recognized for his efforts on behalf of every fire fighter and for his timeless service and unwavering devotion to the OAPFF as Parliamentarian Emeritus.

Submitted by:

The OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

Whereas: Fire Fighters are exposed to heat, smoke, toxic substances and immeasurable amounts of job-related stress., and

Whereas: Fire fighters are more likely to contract cancer, lung disease and cardiovascular disease than any other profession, and

Whereas: Cancer, heart disease, lung disease and other communicable diseases are the leading cause of fire fighter death and disabilities, and

Whereas: Federal Fire Fighters who protect our national interests on many facets and are many times working alongside state and local fire fighters, and

Whereas: these local fire fighters have presumptive laws covering them from the same job-related hazards which Federal fire fighters face, and

Whereas: Federal fire fighters must fight immensely to prove their illness was caused by job related exposures, with cases taking nearly a year and often being impossible to achieve the specific proof, and

Whereas: the IAFF has devoted great resources and support to the Federal Firefighters Fairness Act to ensure our federal brothers and sisters are covered under the same presumptions that all state and local fire fighters are, no therefore be it

Resolved: That the Delegates assembled at the 53rd Biennial Conference of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters support the passing the Federal Firefighters Fairness Act.

Submitted By:

OAPFF Executive Board:

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** Many IAFF and OAPFF Local Unions utilize annual independent financial audits performed by an outside accounting firm, and
- Whereas:** The purpose and goal of conducting such independent financial audits is to increase transparency and protect an organization's financial assets, and
- Whereas:** As an example, the Association of Cleveland Fire Fighters Local 93 has been conducting such an independent financial audit for many years at a current cost factor of approximately \$4,500.00, and
- Whereas:** The members of the Association of Cleveland Fire Fighters Local 93 feel the above cost-factor is de minimus, especially in light of the increased transparency and protection the independent financial audit provides, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That Article VIII, Section 4 of the Constitution and By-Laws be amended by adding the following language:

THE SECRETARY/TREASURER SHALL FACILITATE THE EXECUTION OF AN INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT DONE BY AN OUTSIDE ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR ALL ACCOUNTS ADMINISTERED BY THE OAPFF.

Submitted By:

Association of Cleveland Fire Fighters Local 93

Cost: \$0.14

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

Whereas: Brother Jeff Younkins has been active member of the International Association of Fire Fighters for over 30 years, serving both Warren Local 204 and Champion Local 2948, and

Whereas: Brother Younkins has also been an active member of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters for this same period, and

Whereas: Brother Younkins served in an elected office of his home locals for over two decades, where he served as President, Trustee and was also a founding member of the OAPFF statewide legislative committee and

Whereas: Brother Younkins has served as OAPFF Trustee for a decade from 2012 to 2022, and

Whereas: Brother Younkins has continued to assist on legislative issues across the state, advocating for fire fighters and providing financial oversight of the OAPFF's finances, now therefore be it

Resolved: That Brother Jeff Younkins be recognized for his efforts and his lifelong service and unwavering dedication to the betterment of working conditions, living standards, and retirement benefits for all Ohio's fire fighters and their families, and be it further

Resolved: That the Delegates of the 53rd Biennial Conference of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters honor Jeff Younkins as a true friend of Labor, the IAFF, and the OAPFF.

Submitted By:

OAPFF Executive Board:

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** We have over 12,000 members, and
- Whereas:** Many of these members dedicate and volunteer their time to their local unions and the OAPFF to fight local, state, and federal government policies for the betterment of our profession, and
- Whereas:** The dedication of these brothers and sisters sometimes goes unrecognized, and
- Whereas:** These Local Union Officers have the most difficult job, and often-used statement by Emeritus GP Harold Schaitberger, and
- Whereas:** These Local Union Officers are the first and to many the only Union voice the Members hear as they motivate and educate the members on Union and fire fighter issues, and
- Whereas:** These Union Leaders are the first line of defense for all Union fire fighters in the State on issues won or defended at the Local level setting precedence for all other locals throughout the State, and
- Whereas:** The IAFF has a Leadership Award Program to honor a member from each of the 16 districts of the IAFF nominated by their peers, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the OAPFF develop an OAPFF Leadership Award Program to honor a member nominated by their peers from each of the 5 districts, and this Leadership Award be presented to the member at the OAPFF Biennial Conference.

Submitted By:

Shaker Heights Local 516

Cost:

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** We have over 12,000 members, and
- Whereas:** Most of these members and their families are not prepared, and
- Whereas:** The cost of legal fees continues to rise, and
- Whereas:** Most members will be in a similar economic situation therefore boilerplate documents can be created to take care of each individual with only minor changes, and
- Whereas:** The economics of scale comes into effect when developing similar yet individualized documents, and
- Whereas:** These attorneys through volume shall be experts in serving the specific needs of the members, and
- Whereas:** The uniqueness of our profession, our pension system, DROP, and investment opportunities, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the OAPFF develop a program to offer legal services to both active and retired members to establish wills, living wills, trusts, declaring durable power attorneys, and other estate planning documents at no cost to the members, and be it further
- Resolved:** That a per capita increase be assessed if necessary to fund this important work.

Submitted By:

Shaker Heights Local 516

Cost: \$3.75

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** Improvements in technology over time have occurred simplifying and streamlining communication, record keeping and accounting practices, and
- Whereas:** These technological advancements have resulted in a desire for increased transparency for the operations of the OAPFF, and
- Whereas:** The aforesaid improvements and advancements make it far simpler to achieve this goal, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the final paragraph of Article VIII, Section 4 of the Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

The Secretary/Treasurer shall, no later than thirty (30) days after the Executive Board meeting, post a copy of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting, including the vote counts by name, and further include a financial report of balances and ~~major~~ all expenditures/expenses, ~~over one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)~~, not including salaries, on the OAPFF website.

Submitted By:

Association of Cleveland Fire Fighters Local 93

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

Whereas: Throughout the United States, mental health has come to the forefront of our society's collective conscious, and

Whereas: First responders are 50% more likely to develop behavioral health conditions including, but not limited to, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and

Whereas: Suicide rates for firefighters are 20% higher than the general population, and

Whereas: In 2017, the year the OAPFF Peer Support Team was formed more than 250 first responders died of suicide, and

Whereas: In a recent survey of Ohio's fire and EMS providers, 81% have experienced signs or symptoms associated with emotional stress, and

Whereas: Ohio Revised Code § 2317.02 provides privileged communication with members of a Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team, and

Whereas: Peer support programs are a critical part of supporting first responders who are experiencing a mental health crisis, now therefore be it

Resolved: That the Delegates assembled at of the 53rd Biennial Conference of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters support the OAPFF efforts seeking legislative sponsors and cosponsors to amend ORC § 2317.02 to include Peer Supporters in privileged communication.

Submitted By:

OAPFF Executive Board:

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** Save A Warrior’s mission is to help end the epidemic of suicide among our nation’s active-duty military, veterans, and first responder communities, and
- Whereas:** Save a Warrior’s program offers an original, integrative retreat model for active-duty military, veterans, police, fire fighters and other first responders aimed at overcoming the symptoms and addictions associated with Complex Post-Traumatic Stress, and
- Whereas:** Save A Warrior believes in challenging conventional thinking to healing from Complex Post-Traumatic Stress that includes a community of support and highly effective techniques to move our nation’s heroes away from suicide and suicidal ideation, and
- Whereas:** Save A Warrior specializes in understanding and progressing through early childhood trauma, and
- Whereas:** Save A Warrior is a proven Suicide Prevention Resource, and
- Whereas:** Save A Warrior has an over 99.7% efficacy rate in suicide prevention among the nearly 2,000 they have served since their founding in 2012, and
- Whereas:** Save A Warrior maintains its corporate headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, with operations in Hillsboro, Ohio, and
- Whereas:** Ohio Professional Fire Fighters have used this program to overcome the devastating effects of Complex Post-Traumatic Stress, and
- Whereas:** Each seat the 90 Ohio Professional Fire Fighters have sat in personally cost them nothing, and
- Whereas:** Each seat at Save A Warrior costs the organization \$3,500 to provide, and
- Whereas:** Fire fighter applications are nearly doubling each year, and
- Whereas:** Save A Warrior is nearly completely funded by Veteran Service Organizations and private donors, and
- Whereas:** No fire institution has contributed to any costs, despite their increasing use, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters (OAPFF) members contribute a \$5.00 assessment for 2022 and \$5.00 in 2023.

Submitted By:
Dayton Firefighters Local 136

Cost: \$10.00 per member (total cost – no per capita increase)

Committee Recommendation:
Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** The US Congress is currently considering Legislation called the Secure Act 2.0, and
- Whereas:** The above legislation most probably will contain provisions which enhance the Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (HELPS Act), and
- Whereas:** This legislation could increase the amount of the exclusion from pension income that our retirees use to pay for health care premiums, and
- Whereas:** The income exclusion could be more readily available by eliminating the requirement that the retirement income provider make the health care payments directly to the health care insurance provider, and
- Whereas:** These provisions would benefit all our retired members, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the delegates assembled at this 53rd OAPFF Conference endorse and support the Secure Act 2.0 legislation or any substitute legislation with these provisions, and further be it
- Resolved:** That the OAPFF work with the IAFF, NCPERS, and other interested parties to secure passage of this legislation, and further be it
- Resolved:** That this resolution be forwarded by the OAPFF to the IAFF Conference in Ottawa Canada for the IAFF consideration.

Submitted By:

OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #

Committee:

Whereas: Brother Michael P. Taylor has provided outstanding commitment, service, and leadership to this great Union at the Local, State, and International level, and

Whereas: Brother Taylor served the citizens of Steubenville as a Fire Fighter, Captain and Assistant Chief for over 30 years and has now served the OAPFF and IAFF as an elected officer for over 23 years, and

Whereas: Brother Taylor served as OAPFF 3rd District Vice President for over 18 years, OAPFF President for over 5 years, served as an IAFF Field Representative, and is Past President of Steubenville Fire Fighters Local 228 and

Whereas: Brother Taylor was a long serving member and Chair of the OAPFF Constitution and Bylaws committee, chaired committees to reunify Ohio IAFF locals under the OAPFF, was the First Chairman of the OAPFF Human Relations committee, currently represents all Ohio Fire Fighter's as a Bureau of Workers Compensation board member, and

Whereas: Brother Taylor organized several new IAFF locals, represented district members in disciplinary matters, negotiated numerous amounts of collective bargaining agreements, and

Whereas: Brother Taylor's advice, guidance, friendship as well as mentorship to the 3rd District and the OAPFF will never be forgotten, therefor be it

Resolved: That the members of the OAPFF recognize Brother Taylor's dedication in service to the OAPFF, the IAFF, and Professional Fire Fighters throughout Ohio, and be it further

Resolved: That the Brothers and Sisters of the OAPFF assembled at the 53rd Biennial Conference bestow upon Brother Michael P. Taylor the prestigious position of Vice President Emeritus of the OAPFF for his dedication and commitment to this great Union and the members he has served.

Submitted by:

OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee:

Whereas: United States (US) Congressman Tim Ryan was elected to the US Congress in 2002 with the support of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters, and

Whereas: As a congressman, he has continued to support Fire Fighters as demonstrated by his voting record on SAFER, The FIRE Act, and Collective Bargaining, and

Whereas: Representative Tim Ryan has supported the elimination of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) laws, and

Whereas: Congressman Ryan supported the Secure Act 2 that will improve the retirement savings system for U.S. workers, and

Whereas: Congressman Ryan has a long history in support of labor issues as demonstrated by his time spent in the US House of Representatives, and

Whereas: Congressman Ryan now seeks to represent the State of Ohio as one of its two senators, and

Whereas: Ohio Professional Fire Fighters could not have a better friend than Tim Ryan, and

Whereas: That Congressman Tim Ryan is worthy of endorsement of the OAPFF, now therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this OAPFF 53rd Biennial Conference endorse and support Congressman Tim Ryan for election to the United States Senate.

Submitted by:

The OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee Assignment:

- Whereas:** Since 1986 our members have suffered adverse effects from legislation know as Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), and
- Whereas:** Many of our members have worked the necessary quarters to collect Social Security when age eligible, and
- Whereas:** WEP drastically reduces the amount of Social Security that our members receive, and
- Whereas:** Since collecting a public pension should have no effect on Social Security and should be treated the same as private sector pensions, and
- Whereas:** These provisions would benefit all our retired members and make their retirement more secure, now therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the delegates assembled at this 53rd OAPFF Conference endorse and support federal legislative efforts to eliminate the WEP provisions in Social Security. and further be it
- Resolved:** That the OAPFF work with the IAFF, NCPERS, and other interested parties to secure passage of this legislation, and further be it
- Resolved:** That this resolution be forwarded by the OAPFF to the IAFF Conference in Ottawa Canada for the IAFF consideration.

Submitted By:

OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action:

Resolution #
Committee:

- Whereas:** The Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters has a long history of endorsing candidates who support our members and our issues of public safety, and
- Whereas:** That endorsement and support is important in statewide races for officers such as Governor of Ohio, and
- Whereas:** Having a Governor who has an established record of supporting fire fighter and public safety issues will pay dividends in protecting fire fighters and EMS providers, as well as the public, and
- Whereas:** Former Mayor of Cincinnati John Cranley is running for Governor of Ohio, and
- Whereas:** John Cranley's commitment to Cincinnati's Safety Forces through his time as Mayor of Cincinnati is unprecedented and has helped to solidify staffing levels as well ended station "brown outs" for the members of Local 48, and
- Whereas:** John Cranley has established a productive and beneficial working relationship with Local 48, and
- Whereas:** Mayor Cranley was raised in the Price Hill neighborhood of Cincinnati, where he graduated from St. Xavier High School in 1992. He graduated from John Carrol University in Cleveland, Ohio magna cum laude with degrees in Philosophy and Political Science and served twice as the student body president, and
- Whereas:** John Cranley went on to earn his Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School and a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School, and
- Whereas:** Mayor Cranley has been a champion for equal rights, and
- Whereas:** The Mayor has helped to revitalize the City of Cincinnati and its neighborhoods, and
- Whereas:** Mayor Cranley supports defined benefit pension systems such as Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, and

Resolution # (continued)

Committee:

Whereas: John Cranley supports collective bargaining for Ohio's fire fighters to provide a professional voice on the job on issues such as wages, benefits, working conditions, and safety, and

Whereas: John Cranley has chosen another friend to Ohio's Fire Fighters, Teresa Fedor to be his running mate as Ohio's Lt. Governor, and

Whereas: John Cranley will be a Governor who will stand with Ohio's fire fighters and EMS providers, not against them, now therefore be it

Resolved: That the delegates assembled at this 53rd Biennial Conference of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters support and endorse John Cranley for Governor of Ohio.

Submitted by:

The OAPFF Executive Board

Committee Recommendation:

Conference Action: