
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 170
Author: Grayson (D)
Introduced: 4/29/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Firefighter Mental Health Awareness Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the week of May 25 to May 29, inclusive, as Firefighter Mental Health Awareness Week.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Firefighting is a dangerous and physically demanding profession that requires the men and women of the fire service to routinely put themselves in harm's way for the good of the communities that they serve.
- 2) In addition to the physical demands of the profession, firefighting has been consistently rated as one of the most stressful and emotionally intense professions, often listed second only to front-line military personnel.
- 3) Long shifts, protracted time spent away from family and loved ones, and an ingrained culture of stoicism exacerbate the effects of these stresses, contributing to struggles and behavioral health issues including depression, anxiety, and substance abuse. Studies have shown that one in five firefighters will experience a post-traumatic stress injury at some point in their career, and that firefighters are 10 times more likely to contemplate or attempt suicide than the general public.
- 4) According to the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance, 127 firefighters and EMTs died by suicide in 2024, an increase in reports from previous years.
- 5) Peer support programs and confidential discussions with trusted colleagues and peers with similar work and life experiences provide not only an outlet to express these struggles but also allow for connections to life-saving resources.

This resolution proclaims the week of May 25 to May 29, inclusive, as Firefighter Mental Health Awareness Week.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 76 (Grayson, Resolution Chapter 100, Statutes of 2023)

ACR 192 (Grayson, Resolution Chapter 95, Statutes of 2022)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171

5/6/26 13:50:39

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