

September 25, 2012

TO: ALL HOUSE MEMBERS

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE SID MICHAELS KAVULICH

RE: Resolution Recognizing October 7, 2012 as "National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Day" in Pennsylvania

I plan to soon introduce a resolution recognizing October 7, 2012 as "National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Day" in Pennsylvania. The United States Congress and the President of the United States have designated the day of the annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service to honor firefighters and emergency services personnel who have sacrificed their lives to save others. The Commonwealth should formally join in the effort of recognizing firefighters who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Commonwealth in responding to protect their fellow citizens from fire dangers.

An average of 100 firefighters and emergency personnel courageously make the ultimate sacrifice each year. A 85 firefighters and emergency personnel from across the nation, including five from Pennsylvania, will be specifically remembered during the roll call at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Day on October 7, 2012; because they had lost their lives in 2011. Those five courageous heroes are: Christian D. Beaston, Jr. of the Hellam Fire Company; Derek Kozorosky of the United States Air Force, Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan; John J. Lackovic, Jr. of the Valley Forge Volunteer Fire Company; Keith J. Rankin of the Lancaster Township Fire Department and Edward N. Steffy of the Rothsville Volunteer Fire Company.

In addition to recognizing October 7, 2012 as "National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Day" in Pennsylvania, the resolution will honor those gentlemen; express the House's condolences to their families, friends, loved ones and fellow fire and emergency personnel. It also will congratulate all fire departments, companies, municipalities and other groups that organize memorial services and other special events to commemorate National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service Day. Lastly, it will urge all residents to participate in such events to remember and thank all fire and emergency services personnel who have served their communities.

I ask each of you to considering joining as a co-sponsor of this resolution by emailing Cameron Texter of the Democratic Office of Member Services at ctexter@pahouse.net.
Thanks.