

Resolution No. 33

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Policy

Re: Active-Retired Members

1 WHEREAS, the core values of the IAFF have
2 been established by those members who have
3 preceded us; and

4 WHEREAS, many advances made in health and
5 safety, wages, benefits, working conditions, and
6 elevating the stature of fire fighters and emergency
7 medical workers were won by members now retired;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, maintaining the political support,
10 institutional knowledge, and active participation of
11 retirees strengthens the IAFF and its state/provincial
12 and local affiliates; and

13 WHEREAS, the IAFF Constitution and By-Laws
14 recognizes an active-retired status of membership
15 and empowers local affiliates with the sole
16 responsibility to determine whether they choose to
17 offer their members the opportunity to remain part of
18 the IAFF as an active-retired member; and

19 WHEREAS, most affiliates do not offer the
20 option of active-retired membership to their
21 respective retirees; and

22 WHEREAS, the IAFF recognizes the legitimate
23 concern of many affiliates that active members have
24 operational control and voting primacy within their
25 local; and

26 WHEREAS, the IAFF Constitution and By-Laws

27 provides latitude for affiliates to establish conditions
28 and limitations on the role and rights of active-retired
29 members within their local; and

30 WHEREAS, the delegates passed Resolution 40
31 at the 2002 IAFF Convention creating IAFF Alumni
32 to offer retirees from locals that do not offer the
33 option of being an active-retired member to remain
34 connected to the IAFF; and

35 WHEREAS, IAFF Alumni members have no
36 official affiliation, voting rights, and other
37 membership privileges under the IAFF or their
38 local's Constitution and By-Laws; and

39 WHEREAS, the IAFF Alumni program has not
40 been a successful or an adjunct to the IAFF and its
41 state/provincial and local affiliates; and

42 WHEREAS, the relative failure of the IAFF
43 Alumni was largely attributable to a prior lack of
44 commitment and resources to make the program and
45 its' members a valuable adjunct to the IAFF; and

46 WHEREAS, the union would be politically
47 stronger, boast more members, and have greater
48 involvement if affiliates instituted an active-retired
49 membership category; therefore be it

50 RESOLVED, That the IAFF Alumni program be
51 re-evaluated by staff with the intention of making it a
52 meaningful program for the members of affiliates
53 that do not offer active-retired membership status;
54 and be it further

55 RESOLVED, That staff recommendations be
56 shared with the IAFF Executive Board for their
57 consideration and action no later than March 31,

58 2025; and be it further
59 RESOLVED, That the IAFF strongly encourages
60 locals to utilize the active-retired membership
61 provision in the Constitution and By-Laws; and be it
62 further

63 RESOLVED, That each local, under the auspices
64 of local autonomy and through its Constitution and
65 By-Laws, is empowered to set the conditions of
66 membership, including but not limited to dues
67 structure, voting rights within the local, prohibitions
68 on retirees holding office within the local; and be it
69 further

70 RESOLVED, That the IAFF develop educational
71 materials explaining the options of both active-retired
72 membership and the IAFF Alumni and the respective
73 benefits and limitations of each option; and be it
74 further

75 RESOLVED, That the IAFF develop programs to
76 involve and engage IAFF active-retired members and
77 IAFF Alumni.

Submitted by: IAFF Executive Board

Cost Estimate: **None**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **N/A**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt

CONVENTION ACTION: Adopted