

## **Resolution No. 48**

### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Policy**

**Re:       Indexing the IAFF First Contract Assistance  
          Program to Inflation**

1           WHEREAS, the IAFF provides First Contract  
2       Assistance to affiliated local unions negotiating their  
3       initial collective bargaining agreement, recognizing  
4       that a strong first contract is the foundation of every  
5       local union's future; and

6           WHEREAS, the IAFF Executive Board most  
7       recently updated the First Contract Assistance  
8       amount to \$7,000, reflecting the Board's recognition  
9       that prior amounts had not kept pace with the cost of  
10      effective first-contract bargaining support; and

11          WHEREAS, without an automatic adjustment  
12      mechanism, the purchasing power of the First  
13      Contract Assistance amount will again erode over  
14      time as the cost of legal consultation, contract  
15      research, and professional bargaining support  
16      continues to rise with inflation; and

17          WHEREAS, the VPFF, at its 2026 Biennial  
18      Convention, adopted a resolution directing the  
19      submission of this resolution to the IAFF, having  
20      established its own inflation-indexed first-contract  
21      support fund and recognizing that the same principle  
22      should apply at the international level; and

23          WHEREAS, applying an automatic cost-of-living  
24      adjustment to the First Contract Assistance amount  
25      will preserve its real value for newly organizing

26 locals without requiring the Executive Board or  
27 convention delegates to revisit the amount on an ad  
28 hoc basis; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the IAFF First Contract  
30 Assistance amount established in Policy TA 007  
31 shall be adjusted annually by a percentage equal to  
32 the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban  
33 Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the  
34 prior calendar year, with a minimum annual increase  
35 of 2.5% and a maximum annual increase of 4.5%;  
36 and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That the first such adjustment shall  
38 take effect on January 1, 2027, applied to the current  
39 assistance amount of \$7,000, and annually thereafter;  
40 and be it further

41 RESOLVED, That the IAFF General Secretary-  
42 Treasurer shall calculate and publish the adjusted  
43 First Contract Assistance amount each year and shall  
44 incorporate the indexing mechanism into Policy TA  
45 007 and any other applicable IAFF policy  
46 documents; and be it further

47 RESOLVED, That the IAFF General Secretary-  
48 Treasurer shall report the current First Contract  
49 Assistance amount and cumulative adjustments to  
50 each Biennial Convention.

Submitted by: Virginia Professional Fire Fighters

Cost Estimate: **2 cents (\$0.02)**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **Annual**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

**CONVENTION ACTION:**