

Resolution No. 53

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Resolutions

**Re: To Expand Housing Assistance for IAFF Members
Receiving Medical Treatment in Texas Medical
Center**

1 WHEREAS, an alarming number of firefighters
2 both active and retired are being diagnosed with
3 cancer at rates well above the general population; and

4 WHEREAS, due to the overburdening financial
5 stress experienced while securing lodging near
6 treatment facilities in the Houston Texas Medical
7 center, we are seeing an increased use by Firefighters
8 (active & retired) and their immediate families
9 utilizing the housing that's provided through the
10 Texas Firefighter Home; and

11 WHEREAS, housing expenses associated with
12 extended cancer treatment can start at \$4,000 per
13 month, creating an additional burden on firefighters
14 already facing medical, travel, and family-related
15 expenses; and

16 WHEREAS, the Texas Fire Fighters Home was
17 established to provide short-term housing for up to a
18 90-day stay, with a one-time cleaning fee of \$175 for
19 firefighters and first responders receiving treatment
20 at the Texas Medical Center; and

21 WHEREAS, since its inception, the Texas Fire
22 Fighters Home has provided lodging for more than
23 250 firefighter families, furnished more than 7,500
24 nights of housing, and delivered more than \$1.1

25 million in direct housing assistance to firefighters
26 and their families; and

27 WHEREAS, demand for these services has more
28 than quadrupled since 2020, and occupancy has
29 consistently been above 90%; and

30 WHEREAS, active and retired IAFF members
31 should be given priority consideration for short-term
32 housing assistance and accommodations when
33 available; therefore be it

34 RESOLVED, That the current capacity of seven
35 apartments is insufficient to meet the growing need
36 of IAFF members seeking treatment, and support
37 funding is requested to add four additional
38 apartments at an annual cost of \$86,400 to expand
39 treatment and supportive housing capacity; and be it
40 further

41 RESOLVED, That the International Association
42 of Fire Fighters shall fund four apartments (this is in
43 addition to existing seven apartments the Texas
44 Firefighter Home currently funds) for Brother and
45 Sister Firefighters and their immediate family
46 members receiving medical treatment in the Texas
47 Medical Center.

Submitted by: IAFF Local 0341, Houston Professional
Firefighters

Cost Estimate: **2 ¼ cents (\$0.0225)**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **Annual**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CONVENTION ACTION: