

2019 WSCFF Convention Resolution

1 SUBJECT: Presumptive Coverage for Heart Disease
 2 RESOLUTION #: 19-05
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- 5 WHEREAS: Heart disease is a major cause of death in fire fighters; and
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- 7 WHEREAS: Heart disease is not currently included in RCW 51.32.185: presumption of
 8 occupational disease for fire fighters; and
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- 10 WHEREAS: Fire fighters are susceptible to many heart disease risk factors, including chronic
 11 stress, exposure to toxins, physical strain, post traumatic stress illness (PTSI), and
 12 the effects of cortisol; and
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- 14 WHEREAS: Thirty-two (32) states have passed legislation designating heart disease as a
 15 presumptive illness in fire fighters; and
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- 17 WHEREAS: Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) accounts for approximately 40–50% of fire fighter
 18 line-of-duty deaths (per the NFPA); and
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- 20 WHEREAS: Eighty (80) percent of SCD cases occur in the presence of heart disease; now
 21 therefore be it
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- 24 RESOLVED: That the WSCFF shall pursue, through legislation, the inclusion of heart disease as
 25 a presumptive illness; and be it further
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- 27 RESOLVED: That the WSCFF shall propose that this coverage be extended retroactively to
 28 members who have died within 10 (ten) years of the passage of the legislation.
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- 31 SUBMITTED BY: IAFF Locals 2781, 1828, 3235, 453, 2032, 1760, 3219, 4033, and 46

Committee	Action Taken	Recommendation
Legislative		Do Pass
Safety & Health		Do Pass
Floor	Adopted Unanimously by Standing Ovation	

ASSIGNED DESIGNATION: WSCFF Legislative Team