

## 2023 WSCFF Convention Resolution

1 SUBJECT: Cancer Screening  
 2 RESOLUTION #: 23-17  
 3  
 4

---

5 WHEREAS: Fire fighters across the nation are suffering from increasing rates of cancer as a  
 6 result of their exposure to dangerous chemicals, toxins, and carcinogens from a  
 7 variety of sources – including PFAS chemicals from department issued personal  
 8 protective equipment and firefighting foams; and  
 9

10 WHEREAS: The healthcare industry is developing new methodologies for testing and/or  
 11 screening for cancers which hold the potential to detect and catch cancers earlier  
 12 and earlier; and  
 13

14 WHEREAS: Catching a cancer diagnosis in earlier stages leads to treatment earlier in the cancer  
 15 progression; and  
 16

17 WHEREAS: This leads to higher rates of patient survivability, better outcomes, and potentially  
 18 quicker recovery with less impacting side effects; and  
 19

20 WHEREAS: Treatments of various cancers – both those covered under current presumptive  
 21 disease laws, and cancers that are not covered under presumptive disease laws –  
 22 can pose a staggering financial cost for employers (and/or the State); and  
 23

24 WHEREAS: Costs can easily run into the millions of dollars per case; and  
 25

26 WHEREAS: In addition to potentially saving someone’s life, screening for and diagnosing  
 27 cancers in the earlier stages can significantly reduce treatment costs for a given  
 28 cancer; now therefore be it  
 29

30

31 RESOLVED: That the WSCFF pursue legislative options for state funded periodic cancer  
 32 screenings for fire fighters working in the state of Washington and any retirees who  
 33 are eligible for presumptive cancer coverage under RCW 51.32.185(2).  
 34  
 35  
 36  
 37 SUBMITTED BY: Legislative

Committee	Action Taken	Recommendation
Legislative		Do Pass
Floor		
H&S		Do Pass
Floor	Amended; Adopted as Amended	

ASSIGNED DESIGNATION: