

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR JOHN SMITH

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Fort Polk Fire Chief Emeritus Michael L. Kuk for being inducted into the Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation Hall of Fame.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Fort Polk Fire Chief Emeritus Michael L. Kuk for being inducted into the  
3 Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation Hall of Fame.

4 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the citizens of this state and the Senate of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the honor bestowed upon Fort Polk Fire Chief  
6 Emeritus Michael L. Kuk for being inducted into the Military Firefighter Heritage  
7 Foundation Hall of Fame; and

8 WHEREAS, Michael L. Kuk was inducted on April 28, 2018, as the United States  
9 Army's awardee for 2018; and

10 WHEREAS, the event took place at the Department of Defense Military Fire  
11 Academy, located at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, Chief Kuk has been a lifelong firefighter, serving as a military,  
13 industrial, civilian, and volunteer fire chief at several departments, and is a decorated United  
14 States Army Vietnam Veteran; and

15 WHEREAS, he served as the Long Binh military fire station chief, supervising  
16 twenty soldier-firefighters, during his time in Vietnam from 1970-1971; and

17 WHEREAS, Long Binh was the military's largest constructed and operated base of  
18 support and command operations for a theater of war; and

1           WHEREAS, he was recognized at the awards ceremony for his continued work in  
2 the American fire service, still serving as an active volunteer firefighter, chaplain, master  
3 musician, historian, and author; and

4           WHEREAS, Michael L. Kuk is a credentialed and certified chief fire officer, and  
5 holds dual fellowships in the Institution of Fire Engineers of Great Britain and Homeland  
6 Security; and

7           WHEREAS, this is his third time to be inducted into a hall of fame; he was inducted  
8 into the 50-60s Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in 2006 with his band from the 1960s the "Union  
9 Jacks" and then was the first inductee into the United States Army Fire Chiefs Hall of Fame  
10 in 2009; and

11           WHEREAS, Chief Kuk continues to serve in many capacities for both the American  
12 and International fire services, traveling abroad with numerous fire service delegations to  
13 share knowledge and experience with his foreign counterparts, and is a guest speaker at  
14 multiple fire service events; and

15           WHEREAS, he has been a published fire service author since 1972, and has written  
16 many landmark articles and booklets about rare firefighting history and incidents that have  
17 shaped the direction of how firefighters undertake their careers, training, and historical  
18 accounts; and

19           WHEREAS, he is currently writing a memoir about his time in Vietnam as an Army  
20 firefighter; and

21           WHEREAS, as a professional union musician, he performs on the keyboard and as  
22 a vocalist at many firefighter, military, and civil ceremonies throughout the year; and

23           WHEREAS, the award was co-presented by Chief G. Keith Bryant, the United States  
24 Fire Administrator and the Chairman of the Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation,  
25 Michael D. Robertson; and

26           WHEREAS, the strength of our communities and the overall vitality of American  
27 society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of men like Michael L. Kuk who  
28 proudly serve our country and use their considerable talents and resources to benefit future  
29 generations.

30           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana

1 does hereby acknowledge the honor bestowed upon Fort Polk Fire Chief Emeritus Michael  
2 L. Kuk for being inducted into the Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation Hall of Fame  
3 and wishes him much success in all his future endeavors.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Fort  
5 Polk Fire Chief Emeritus Michael L. Kuk.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tammy Crain Waldrop.

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DIGEST

SR 15 Original

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