

Resolution No. 13
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Resolutions
Re: Alumni Program Abolishment

1 WHEREAS, the core values of the IAFF have
2 been established by those members who have
3 preceded us; and

4 WHEREAS, many advances made in health and
5 safety, wages, benefits, working conditions, and
6 elevating the stature of fire fighters and emergency
7 medical workers were won by members now retired;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, maintaining the political support,
10 institutional knowledge, and active participation of
11 retirees strengthens the IAFF and its state/provincial
12 and local affiliates; and

13 WHEREAS, the IAFF Constitution & By-Laws
14 recognizes an active-retired status of membership
15 and empowers local affiliates with the sole
16 responsibility to determine whether they choose to
17 offer their members the opportunity to remain part of
18 the IAFF as an active-retired member; and

19 WHEREAS, most affiliates do not offer the
20 option of active-retired membership to their
21 respective retirees; and

22 WHEREAS, the IAFF recognizes the legitimate
23 concern of many affiliates that active members have
24 operational control and voting primacy within their
25 local; and

26 WHEREAS, the IAFF Constitution & By-Laws

27 provides latitude for affiliates to establish conditions
28 and limitations on the role and rights of active-retired
29 members within their local; and

30 WHEREAS, the delegates passed Resolution 40
31 at the 2002 IAFF Convention creating IAFF Alumni
32 to offer retirees from locals that do not offer the
33 option of being an active-retired member to remain
34 connected to the IAFF; and

35 WHEREAS, IAFF Alumni members have no
36 official affiliation, voting rights, and other
37 membership privileges under the IAFF or their
38 local's Constitution & By-Laws; and

39 WHEREAS, the IAFF Alumni program has not
40 been successful or an adjunct to the IAFF and its
41 state/provincial and local affiliates; and

42 WHEREAS, the relative failure of the IAFF
43 Alumni was largely attributable to a prior lack of
44 commitment and resources to make the program and
45 its' members a valuable adjunct to the IAFF; and

46 WHEREAS, the union would be politically
47 stronger, boast more members, and have greater
48 involvement if affiliates instituted an active-retired
49 membership category; therefore be it

50 RESOLVED, That the IAFF Alumni program be
51 abolished with the intention of urging affiliates to
52 adopt active-retired status within their Local
53 structure; and be it further

54 RESOLVED, That each local, under the auspices
55 of local autonomy and through its Constitution &
56 By-Laws, is empowered to set the conditions of
57 membership, including but not limited to dues

58 structure, voting rights within the local, prohibitions
59 on retirees holding office within the local; and be it
60 further

61 RESOLVED, That the IAFF develop educational
62 materials explaining the benefits of active-retired
63 membership; and be it further

64 RESOLVED, That the IAFF develop programs to
65 involve and engage IAFF active-retired members.

Submitted by: IAFF Executive Board

Cost Estimate: **None**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **N/A**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt

CONVENTION ACTION: