

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 HOUSE CONCURRENT
5 RESOLUTION 1008

 By: Hilbert of the House

 and

 Paxton of the Senate

8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Concurrent Resolution related to the severe wind
10 event of the period beginning March 14, 2025;
11 recognizing courage and dedication of paid and
12 volunteer firefighters and firefighting personnel of
13 Native American tribes; and directing distribution.

14 WHEREAS, during the period from the morning of Friday, March 14,
15 2025, continuing into the weekend, Oklahoma experienced
16 extraordinarily high winds over most of the area of the State; and

17 WHEREAS, low humidity, high winds and pre-existing drought
18 conditions created the risk for an outbreak of wildfires; and

19 WHEREAS, hundreds of wildfires broke out beginning in western
20 Oklahoma and continuing eastward, damaging or destroying pasture,
21 crops, barns, buildings, homes, businesses, infrastructure and other
22 assets; and

23 WHEREAS, at least four persons lost their lives as a result of
24 the wildfires or the high winds or a combination of both; and

1 WHEREAS, hundreds of persons were injured as a result of the
2 high winds or the wildfires or a combination of both; and

3 WHEREAS, this type of event strains firefighting personnel and
4 resources beyond all reasonable limits; and

5 WHEREAS, the paid and volunteer firefighters in both rural and
6 incorporated areas, along with the firefighting personnel of many
7 Native American tribes and many first responders used their training
8 and expertise to combat the fires, to preserve property, to save
9 lives, to treat injured persons and to provide all forms of
10 assistance as required; and

11 WHEREAS, the efforts of the brave people who engage in
12 firefighting services and other first responders are always to be
13 highly valued even without the kind of severe weather event that
14 triggered the wildfire outbreak; and

15 WHEREAS, were it not for the combined efforts of the people
16 engaged in firefighting services across the state, the loss of life
17 and property and the damage to private property and public
18 infrastructure would have been far worse; and

19 WHEREAS, the courage and highest standards of public service
20 exhibited by the paid and volunteer firefighting personnel and the
21 firefighting personnel of the Native American tribes and first
22 responders from all areas of the state should be specially
23 recognized.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
3 CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma
5 State Senate recognize the efforts of paid and volunteer
6 firefighters, the firefighters of the several Native American tribes
7 across the State of Oklahoma, and the first responders serving many
8 governmental entities within the state.

9 THAT the courage and dedication of all persons engaged in fire
10 prevention efforts, firefighting efforts and the provision of
11 emergency medical services during the period of the severe weather
12 high wind event should be acknowledged.

13 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma
14 State Senate wish to express gratitude and most sincere appreciation
15 on behalf of all people of the State of Oklahoma for the
16 professional services, courage, dedication and the spirit of public
17 service demonstrated by both paid and volunteer firefighters, the
18 firefighting personnel of several Native American tribes and all
19 first responders during this critical period of time.

20 THAT prayers be offered in support of people who have lost their
21 homes, their businesses, and their belongings.

22 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma
23 State Firefighters Association, the Oklahoma Fire Chiefs
24 Association, the Professional Firefighters of Oklahoma and to the

1 several Native American tribes the firefighting personnel of which
2 were called into service during the severe weather high wind event.

3

4 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24