

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1815

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the Baxter Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

WHEREAS, The Baxter Springs Volunteer Fire Department celebrated 100 years of devoted service to the community on May 23, 2003; and

WHEREAS, The organization was established in 1903 with A. R. Kane, John W. Cook, Ben Patton and Bill Jones providing a bucket brigade. A chemical fire engine was purchased in 1912 and its first motorized vehicle was purchased in 1925—which machine is now on display at the Baxter Springs Heritage Center and Museum. The department moved to its present location at 11th and Park in 1927; and

WHEREAS, The Baxter Springs Volunteer Fire Department has 27 members, including the fire chief, Stacy Ellsworth; deputy chief, Art Mallory; and assistant chief, Les Page. Paul Buckner has been with the department for 57 years, Wayne Cook for 32 years, Les Page for 31 years, Art Mallory for 28 years and Robin Wene for 28 years. Wayne Cook's family has given a total of 206 years of service commencing with his great-grandfather, John W. Cook, who was with the department for 35 years; and

WHEREAS, The department responds to house fires and grass fires, assists with other disasters such as storms, floods and vehicle accidents and even rescues cats in trees. Obviously, this community has benefited greatly from 100 years of dedicated service by the Baxter Springs Volunteer Fire Department: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend the Baxter Springs Volunteer Fire Department upon completion of 100 years of dedicated service to the Baxter Springs community; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Umbarger and to Stacy Ellsworth, Fire Chief, Baxter Springs Volunteer Fire Department, and to fire department members Paul Buckner, Wayne Cook, Les Page, Robin Wene and Art Mallory, all at P.O. Box 492, Baxter Springs, KS 66713 plus a copy to Chief Ellsworth for display at the Baxter Springs Historical Museum.

Senate Resolution No. 1815 was sponsored by Senator Dwayne Umbarger.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

---

*President of the Senate.*

---

*Secretary of the Senate.*