

# **COLORADO STATE FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION**

## **Resolution 2007-6**

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association recognizing and commending Representative Rob Witwer for his efforts to support fire and emergency services volunteers across the state.

**WHEREAS,** the reliance on volunteer firefighters to provide fire and emergency services is not only a time-honored tradition, but also an invaluable resource to the citizens of the State of Colorado. At the same time, it is becoming increasingly difficult for fire departments to attract and retain volunteers; and

**WHEREAS,** fire departments and districts across the state are searching for ways to provide incentives to volunteers, while being careful to not do so in such a way as to violate state and federal tax laws and pension requirements; and

**WHEREAS,** State Representative Robert (Rob) Witwer of House District 25, recognizing the significant contribution made by the volunteer fire service in the protection of the citizens and visitors to Colorado, sponsored or co-sponsored legislation to recognize and provide incentives encouraging the recruitment and retention of volunteers; and

**WHEREAS,** Representative Witwer advocated for municipal fire departments and fire protection districts to establish a Length of Service Award Program as one avenue that can be used to enhance the incentives for volunteers to continue in service; and

**WHEREAS,** Representative Witwer understanding the need for flexibility in volunteer compensation, expanded the types of payments that firefighters may receive for their services and still be considered volunteers for purposes of pension eligibility under the Volunteer Firefighter Pension Act; and

**WHEREAS,** Representative Witwer sympathetic to the personal expenses that volunteer firefighters incur, sought to find monetary relief for qualified volunteers; and

**WHEREAS,** Representative Witwer's dedication and hard work on behalf of the volunteer firefighters of Colorado, will provide fire districts and municipalities with the additional tools they need to recruit, recognize and retain volunteers.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Directors of the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association wishes to recognize and commend Representative Rob Witwer for his efforts to support fire and emergency services volunteers across the state, and for seeking to provide fire districts and municipalities the tools they need to recruit, recognize, and retain volunteers.

**PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS** 29th day of November, 2007.

**COLORADO STATE FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION**



Douglas P. Forsman, President