

Resolution 19-02 Establishing Retiree Organization Sent to IAFF for Approval

"The purpose of the Retiree Association is to provide retired WSCFF members a unified voice, improved access to and sharing of information, the ability to engage with and give input to the WSCFF on issues impacting retirees and their beneficiaries, and the ability to connect and network with each other and the active membership."

For nearly a year, the WSCFF Executive Board, in consultation with IAFF DVP Ricky Walsh, worked to craft Resolution 19-02. We sought input from the Retired Fire Fighters of Washington, other IAFF state organizations and WSCFF retirees to create an addendum to our current WSCFF Bylaws, adding a Retiree Association within the WSCFF. The revised document has been submitted to the IAFF for final approval.

The intent is to close the gap between active and retired members. Many retirees have expressed an interest in maintaining contact with the WSCFF and the profession in which many spent their entire careers. Retirees recognize that the WSCFF has worked hard, since our inception in 1939, to push for better laws that protect our members, pensions,

the right to collectively bargain, job security, safety, and much more. They also understand that the results of that work are not limited to active members.

The WSCFF Retiree Association will provide a channel for communication and a voice for retirees. Initially, the advisory board will be appointed by the WSCFF President and WSCFF Secretary-Treasurer.

It will be comprised of three LEOFF I retirees, three additional WSCFF retirees, and chaired by the WSCFF Vice President, who will represent the Association to the WSCFF Board and Legislative Team.

Over the years, there has been a lack of solidarity among retirees on some issues that have come before the Washington State Legislature, which caused elected officials to hesitate to act on these matters. The Retiree Association will allow the WSCFF to present the concerns of retirees and speak on their behalf. This unified voice will assist in maintaining and promoting positive legislation affecting retirees and their families. We are excited to take this positive step for the WSCFF and our retirees.

We will communicate the IAFF decision on the proposed change to the bylaws. Check wscff.org for more information.

If you are interested in serving, or for more information, please contact the WSCFF office.