

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.28.13

BILL 11

LLS NO. R14-0234.01 A. Zimmerman x2291 INTERIM COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Wildfire Matters Review Committee

SHORT TITLE: "Honor Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshots"

INTERIM COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

101 CONCERNING THE GRANITE MOUNTAIN INTERAGENCY HOTSHOT
102 FIREFIGHTING CREW, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,
103 HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE 19 MEMBERS OF
104 THE CREW WHO LOST THEIR LIVES ON JUNE 30, 2013, WHILE
105 BATTLING THE YARNELL HILL FIRE IN ARIZONA.

1 WHEREAS, The Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew, of
2 the Prescott, Arizona Fire Department (Granite Mountain Hotshots), was
3 founded as a fuels mitigation crew in 2002, and became the first
4 municipal hotshot crew in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Hotshot crews are intensively trained wildland
6 firefighters that are placed in the most rugged terrain on the most active
7 and difficult areas of wildfires; and

8 WHEREAS, The Granite Mountain Hotshots are an elite ground
9 firefighting crew, which hailed from diverse backgrounds and worked
10 long hours in extreme environmental conditions while performing
11 physically demanding fireline tasks; and

12 WHEREAS, When large wildfires occur in Colorado and
13 elsewhere, firefighters come from near and far to render assistance. Such
14 was the case with the Granite Mountain Hotshots, who, since becoming
15 qualified as an Interagency Hotshot Crew in 2008, assisted on the

1 following fires in Colorado:

- 2 ● The Coal Creek Fire in the BLM White River District from
3 September 2nd through September 4th, 2011;
- 4 ● The Hay Fire in the BLM White River District from
5 September 4th through September 5th, 2011;
- 6 ● The Karren Place Fire in the BLM White River District
7 from September 5th through September 11th, 2011;
- 8 ● The Reservoir Road Fire in Larimer County from
9 September 13 through September 19, 2010; and

10 WHEREAS, Colorado owes a debt of gratitude to the Granite
11 Mountain Hotshots for their service to the State; and

12 WHEREAS, On June 30, 2013, 19 members of the Granite
13 Mountain Hotshots gave their lives battling the Yarnell Hill Fire in
14 Yavapai County, Arizona; and

15 WHEREAS, The loss of these 19 firefighters makes the Yarnell
16 Hill Fire the worst wildland firefighter fatality incident in the United
17 States in 80 years; and

18 WHEREAS, The 19 members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots
19 who lost their lives are:

- 20 ● Eric Marsh, who was 43 years old and a native of Ashe
21 County, North Carolina, served as the crew's
22 superintendent;
- 23 ● Jesse Steed, who was 36 years old and a native of
24 Cottonwood, Arizona, served as the crew's captain;
- 25 ● Clayton Whitted, who was 28 years old, was a native of
26 Prescott, Arizona;
- 27 ● Robert Caldwell, who was 23 years old, was a native of
28 Prescott, Arizona, and was the cousin of Grant McKee,
29 who also perished battling the Yarnell Hill Fire;
- 30 ● Travis Carter, who was 31 years old, was a native of
31 Prescott, Arizona;
- 32 ● Christopher MacKenzie, who was 30 years old, was a
33 native of Hemet, California;
- 34 ● Travis Turbyfill, who was 27 years old, was a native of
35 Prescott, Arizona;
- 36 ● Andrew Ashcraft, who was 29 years old, was a native of
37 Prescott, Arizona;
- 38 ● Joe Thurston, who was 32 years old, was a native of Cedar
39 City, Utah;
- 40 ● Wade Parker, who was 22 years old, was a native of Chino
41 Valley, Arizona;
- 42 ● Anthony Rose, who was 23 years old, was a native of Zion,
43 Illinois;
- 44 ● Garret Zuppiger, who was 27 years old, was a native of
45 Phoenix, Arizona;
- 46 ● Scott Norris, who was 28 years old, was a native of
47 Prescott, Arizona;
- 48 ● Dustin DeFord, who was 24 years old, was born in

- 1 Baltimore, Maryland and raised in Ekalaka, Montana;
2 ● William "Billy" Warneke, who was 25 years old, was a
3 native of Hemet, California;
4 ● Kevin Woyjeck, who was 21 years old, was a native of Seal
5 Beach, California;
6 ● John Percin, Jr., who was 24 years old, was a native of
7 West Linn, Oregon;
8 ● Grant McKee, who was 21 years old, was a native of
9 Newport Beach, California, and was the cousin of Robert
10 Caldwell, who also perished battling the Yarnell Hill Fire;
11 and
12 ● Sean Misner, who was 26 years old, was a native of Goleta,
13 California; now, therefore,

14 *Be It Resolved by the [redacted] of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly of the*
15 *State of Colorado, the [redacted] concurring herein:*

16 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

17 (1) Commend the bravery and sacrifice made by the fallen heroes
18 of the Prescott Fire Department's Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot
19 Crew;

20 (2) Extend our deepest condolences and sympathy to the surviving
21 families of these 19 firefighters lost in the line of duty; and

22 (3) Express our appreciation for the service of the Granite
23 Mountain Hotshots to the state of Colorado.

24 *Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent*
25 *to the Prescott, Arizona Fire Chief; Michael Morgan, President of*
26 *Colorado State Fire Chiefs; and Paul Cooke, Director of the Division of*
27 *Fire Prevention and Control in the Department of Public Safety. <{To*
28 *whom else should copies be sent?}*>