

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION THAT WILL SET CONSUMER STANDARDS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES IN MICROMOBILITY DEVICES

Offered by:
International Association of Fire Chiefs
National Fire Protection Association
International Code Council

Whereas, our nation has witnessed an increase in deadly fires caused by lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices. The lithium-ion batteries can become overcharged or damaged and create explosive and deadly fires that put both firefighters and the public at risk; and

Whereas, the number of uncertified and untested lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices are on the rise and creating unsafe conditions for operators and their surroundings; and

Whereas, since 1995, there have been 292 reported fatalities and 1,678 reported injuries due to lithium-ion batteries found in micromobility devices; and

Whereas, over the last four years in New York City, there were more than 400 fires related to lithium-ion batteries. These fires resulted in more than 300 injuries, 12 deaths and damage to more than 320 structures and more than 100 non-structures; and

Whereas, in March of 2021, the Harrisburg Bureau of Fire in Harrisburg, PA experienced a line of duty death due to a lithium-ion batteries found in hoverboards; and

Whereas, college towns like Gainesville, Florida experienced several fires due to devices powered by lithium-ion batteries. At least two of these fires involved surrounding structures and dwellings; and

Whereas, this is a nation-wide problem and it requires urgent Congressional action; and

Whereas, to prevent further damage, injury and deaths from lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices, Congress must pass legislation to develop safety standards for these dangerous batteries and their various components; and

Therefore, it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports H.R. 1797/S. 1008, and any successor legislation to these bills, to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate standards for lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices.