

2011-K1307

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring and recognizing the heroism and commitment of local volunteer firefighters in fighting the wildfires in the Towns of Ridge and Manorville, New York, in April 2012

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who would volunteer to devote themselves to public service, demonstrating great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor and recognize the heroism and commitment of local volunteer firefighters in fighting the wildfires in the Towns of Ridge and Manorville, New York, in April 2012; and

WHEREAS, Our unsung heroes, the volunteer firefighters of New York State are everyday committed men and women who leave their families and jobs at a moment's notice and run fearlessly into the face of fire to keep our communities safe and protect their neighbors; they are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, In April 2012, raging wildfires in the area encompassing the towns of Ridge and Manorville, New York, affected over 1,124 acres, making the fire among the 10 largest fires in New York State since 1975; and

WHEREAS, Working under very difficult and dangerous conditions, approximately 200 firefighters from about 35 local area fire departments battled the April 2012 wildfires in Ridge and Manorville, New York, with 20 brush trucks, 10 tankers and 10 engines; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated public servants who unselfishly devote their lives to the preservation of order and the protection of others are worthy and due full praise for their commitment and noble endeavors; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; those volunteers who heroically responded to the wildfires in the Towns of Ridge and Manorville, New York, in April 2012, are such firefighters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and recognize the heroism and commitment of local volunteer firefighters in fighting the wildfires in the Towns of Ridge and Manorville, New York, in April 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the aforementioned volunteer firefighters.