

## 2015-J596

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Howlett Hill Fire Department upon the occasion of being awarded the Insurance Service Office (ISO) Class 2 Rating

WHEREAS, It is the sense of the State of New York to pay tribute to those organizations within our communities, and those who run them, that add to the quality of life for all residents, and to recognize the contributions such organizations make to our society; and

WHEREAS, Primary among those organizations are fire departments that, year after year, are responsive to the specific needs of the local citizenry by providing essential services, such as fire protection and emergency medical services, and whose volunteers risk their lives to protect the community in which they live; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Howlett Hill Fire Department upon the occasion of being awarded the Insurance Service Office (ISO) Class 2 Rating; and

WHEREAS, The courageous and dedicated firefighters of the Howlett Hill Fire Department have valiantly devoted their efforts to respond to various fire emergencies, all the while earning the praise and respect of national and statewide organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Insurance Services Office (ISO) is an organization that provides statistical information on risk, based on a scale of Class 1 through Class 10, Class 1 being the highest, and which insurance companies rely heavily on for calculating rate structures for departments; and

WHEREAS, The Insurance Services Office reaches its award classification based on a detailed review of multiple facets including firematic, administrative operations, training programs, handling of fire alarms, water supply throughout the district and testing of those supplies, and

appropriate use of rescue versus fire apparatus; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, there are only 36 other departments that have received the rating of Class 2 or 1, with only two of those departments receiving a Class 1 status; and

WHEREAS, The Howlett Hill Fire Department is now ranked in the top 1.5% of all fire departments nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Over its 65 year history, the Howlett Hill Fire Department has continually striven to meet the guidelines of the Insurance Services Office and provide a safety-oriented, properly balanced service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Fire Chief Fred Isgar, the Howlett Hill Fire Department has accomplished this through maximizing the funds it receives from residents within the fire district, through fire tax rates and fundraising initiatives, and focusing purchasing decisions on cost/benefit to the community and safety of its members; and

WHEREAS, The Howlett Hill Fire Department also works to share services, becoming one of the first departments to migrate its fire alarm system data and its training data into Onondaga County's Computer Aided Dispatch System; and

WHEREAS, Earning the rating of Class 2 by the Insurance Services Office validates the direction taken by the Howlett Hill Fire Department over the past 65 years, and the sound decisions made by its core volunteers; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to all of those trained and devoted individuals, who serve and protect their communities through fire departments across New York State, and

enough cannot be said about the important role that a volunteer fire department plays in its community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Howlett Hill Fire Department on the occasion of being

awarded the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Class 2 Rating; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Fire Chief Fred Isgar, and to all members of the Howlett Hill Fire Department.