

2013-J330

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Clifford C. Colgan, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Clifford C. Colgan of Binghamton, New York, died on Monday, July 9, 2012, at the age of 59; and

WHEREAS, Clifford C. Colgan distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, Clifford C. Colgan began his career as a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician for the Whitney Point Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, He continued his education, receiving numerous degrees and certificates of achievement from Broome Community College (Fire Protection Technology, 1980), New York State Fire Academy at Montour Falls, the New York City Fire Academy and the National Fire Academy at Emmitsburg, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Clifford C. Colgan was appointed to the Binghamton Fire Department in 1977, retiring as Department Chief in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Chief Clifford C. Colgan's many accomplishments included serving as a core participant in the development of the Binghamton Fire Department Emergency Medical Services program in 1981 and, as Chief, securing Department of Homeland Security Grants for equipment upgrades and fire department services advancement; and

WHEREAS, Under Chief Clifford C. Colgan's luminous leadership, the department saw improved collaboration with other municipal fire depart-

ments, as well as numerous upgrades and the expansion of the Binghamton Fire Training Center, one of the only training centers in the region; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man was the recipient of seven Meritorious Service Awards, EMT of the Year in 1987 and Broome County Firefighter of the Year in 1986 for having made a life saving rescue; and

WHEREAS, Clifford C. Colgan's professional affiliations included New York State Career Chiefs Association and Association of Fire Chiefs, Broome County Fire Advisory Board, Fire Chiefs Association and Local Emergency Planning Committee; and

WHEREAS, Clifford C. Colgan's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, He served as a Broome County Arson investigator and was a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators; he was a member of the Chenango Bridge Fire Department, the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Department, and the Franklin Township Lion's Club; and

WHEREAS, In 1980, Clifford C. Colgan established and operated Colgan Chimney Services until retiring in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his father, Charles Colgan, Clifford C. Colgan is survived by his wife of 38 years, Nadine; daughter, Courtney (Christopher) Ford; and grandson, Cole Francis Ford; surviving him also are his mother, Iva Colgan; sister, Nancy Spisak and her children, Heidi, Eric and Cory Spisak; sisters-in-law, Carol Ann Zurenda, Darlene (Edward) Sneddon; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Clifford C. Colgan leaves behind a legacy which will long

endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Clifford C. Colgan, distinguished citizen and devoted

member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Clifford C. Colgan.