

2013-J2755

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION paying tribute to Fire Chief Dave Robinson for his off-duty heroism in saving the lives of a mother and child

WHEREAS, Citizens across our State and nation are indebted to, and inspired by, our noble firefighters who exhibit courage and commitment every day in the course of performing their duties; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of those exemplary citizens who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations and, in so doing, preserve the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concerns, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to pay tribute to Fire Chief Dave Robinson for his off-duty heroism in saving the lives of a mother and child; and

WHEREAS, On Sunday, December 8, 2013, Dave Robinson, chief of the Gilbertsville Fire Department, was driving on his way to a hunting outing when he noticed swerve marks leading off the road and down into a steep, heavily wooded ravine; and

WHEREAS, Even though he was off-duty at the time, this dedicated first responder's instincts led him to immediately investigate the situation; he climbed down into the approximately 60-foot ravine, where he saw a Jeep, with two child safety seats inside, abandoned in the stream bed; and

WHEREAS, Dave Robinson, after alerting fire control, bravely followed tracks into the four-mile-deep woods; he eventually heard the voice of a woman and began calling out to her, instructing her to walk back towards his voice; and

WHEREAS, The dazed young woman was carrying a small child; Dave Robinson attempted to calm the child and then carried both mother and child

back to the vehicle and across a small creek to where they could be lifted to safety; and

WHEREAS, There is no doubt that without the courageous intervention of Dave Robinson, two young lives would have been cut tragically short due to exposure; the car was invisible to passersby on the road, the young mother's disoriented state rendered her unable to seek aid, and the temperature was a frigid 26 degrees; and

WHEREAS, Dave Robinson, through his spontaneous and heroic actions, demonstrated his character and his compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his behavior, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of the State of New York who voluntarily respond when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to Fire Chief Dave Robinson for his off-duty heroism in saving the lives of a mother and child; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Fire Chief Dave Robinson.