

2013-J2762

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 30, 2014, as First Responders Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and applaud outstanding individuals within our communities whose actions and accomplishments contribute to the health, safety and well-being of the communities of the State of New York and to the quality of life of its people; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 30, 2014, as First Responders Day in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, First Responders are a unique part of New York State's history; and

WHEREAS, The methods used by today's First Responders date back to the American Civil War when Army doctors mobilized new methods of first aid, helping shape our understanding of first aid and military medicine today; and

WHEREAS, The first civilian ambulance service in New York was organized in 1869 by Bellevue Hospital, the oldest operating hospital in the United States; and

WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, First Responders were critical in the hours following the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in New York City, where 60 police officers and 343 firefighters and paramedics died; and

WHEREAS, On January 30, 2009, First Responder Mark David from Cape Vincent, New York, was killed in the line of duty, becoming the inspiration behind Mark's Law, elevating penalties for the murder of First

Responders in New York State; and

WHEREAS, During Hurricane Irene in 2011, and Superstorm Sandy in 2012, First Responders were at work helping others before helping themselves, providing care to the thousands of fellow citizens affected by the storms, while their own homes were destroyed and their families were in need of assistance; and

WHEREAS, A tragedy of any kind, whether a natural disaster or senseless catastrophe, never leaves the heart of the community; and

WHEREAS, A First Responder is a person whose job entails being the first one on the scene of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, First Responders, in many cases, are volunteers and play an integral role in making a difference in appalling circumstances; and

WHEREAS, First Responders are there whenever people are at risk, spending countless hours, and sacrificing personal and professional time to promote the safety of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, When others are running away from danger, First Responders are there to make certain lives are saved, doing whatever it takes with an amazing capacity for courage and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Our unending gratitude and respect are owed to these devoted individuals whose responsibility is the preservation of life and who make that responsibility their own by serving as First Responders; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 30, 2014, as First Responders Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.