

2013-J3550

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION paying tribute to the life and valiant service of Franklin Fire Department Fourth Assistant Chief James C. Wilber who died in the line of duty on February 9, 2014

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, Citizens across our State and Nation are inspired by and indebted to our noble firefighters who exhibit courage and bravery every day in the course of their duties; 58 year-old James C. Wilber was one such firefighter who died doing what he loved; and

WHEREAS, Born on April 7, 1955 in Oneonta, James C. Wilber was the son of Frederick W. and Dorothy J. (Safford) Wilber; he married his loving wife, Susan Atcher on October 12, 1974; and

WHEREAS, James C. Wilber, affectionately known as Jim, retired in 2008 after serving many years as a machinist for Amphenol Corp. in Sidney; he was a member of the Franklin Fire Department and Emergency Squad for 39 years, and was currently serving as Fourth Assistant Chief, a position he held for more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his time with Franklin Fire Department, James C. Wilber was a member of Wells Bridge Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, With more than four decades as a Volunteer Firefighter, James C. Wilber was devoted to fire service and participated in numerous seminars and training events throughout the country; in addition, he was an avid hunter and outdoorsman; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his father, Frederick W. Wilber, and his brother, Douglas Wilber, James C. Wilber is survived by his wife, Susan Wilber; his mother, Dorothy Wilber; his son, Ken (Amanda) Wilber; his

sister, Debbie Gross; his uncles, Earl (Alice) Wilber and Halsey (Donna) Wilber; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins; and WHEREAS, The Franklin Fire Department family will always remember this outstanding man for the hard work and dedication he showed the fire company as well as the community, but most importantly, for his quality of character; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Fourth Assistant Chief James C. Wilber touched many through his kindness and commitment to service, and, as we recall the loss of this great man, we memorialize his remarkable life and the enormous impact he had on everyone with whom he came in contact; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to convey its grateful appreciation and heartfelt regret in recognition of the loss of this courageous firefighter who dedicated his purposeful life and career in faithful service to his family and community; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to the life and valiant service of Franklin Fire Department Fourth Assistant Chief James C. Wilber, and to express its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of James C. Wilber, Fourth Assistant Chief, Franklin Fire Department.