

2013-J5683

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Chief James R. Ballard upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 48 years of dedicated service to the Otterkill Engine Company No. 1

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commend Chief James R. Ballard upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 48 years of dedicated service to the Otterkill Engine Company No. 1 to be celebrated at its Annual Banquet on Saturday, November 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, James R. Ballard joined the Otterkill Engine Company No. 1 in 1965; in addition to serving as Chief, he has held numerous positions including 2nd Lieutenant, 1st Lieutenant, Captain, and Assistant Chief; and

WHEREAS, Chief James R. Ballard was named Firefighter of the Year in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; James R. Ballard is such a firefighter; throughout 48 years of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call

of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire

protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Chief James R. Ballard for 48 years of distinguished service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James R. Ballard.