

## 2013-J6044

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Firefighter Tom Puerschner upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Jeffersonville Fire Department

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 Firefighter Tom Puerschner upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Jeffersonville Fire Department; 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, Upon completion of his United States military service, Jeffersonville, New York native, Tom Puerschner joined the Jeffersonville Fire Department in March of 1964; by April of the same year, he also had a career as a Lineman for New York Telephone, today known as Verizon, a career he maintained until his retirement in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Tom Puerschner's family roots in the small idyllic Sullivan County Village of Jeffersonville date back to the 1830s; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, serving as the Department's Chief from 1976 to 1978, Tom Puerschner's father was also a former Jeffersonville Fire Chief, as well as his brother, and most recently his son, Ed, representing the third generation of Puerschner Fire Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 32 years, Judy, as

well as their four children and seven grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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; Tom Puerschner is such a firefighter; throughout 50 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 Firefighter Tom Puerschner for 50 years of distinguished service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Tom Puerschner.