## 2015-J2969

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending ex-Captain Tony Bilardello upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 40 years of dedicated service to the Floral Park 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 ex-Captain Tony Bilardello upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 40 years of dedicated service to the Floral Park Fire Department, celebrated at its Annual Installation Dinner on Saturday, April 25, 2015; 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, Citizens across our State and Nation are inspired by and indebted to our valiant firefighters who exhibit courage and bravery every day in the course of their duties; and WHEREAS, Firefighters exemplify the power of human compassion and the strength of the American spirit through actions of the most heroic magnitude; their sacrifices and their selfless dedication merit tribute and recognition by all citizens of this great country; 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; ex-Captain Tony Bilardello is such a firefighter; throughout 40 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 ex-Captain Tony Bilardello for 40 years of distinguished service to the Floral Park Fire Department; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to ex-Captain Tony Bilardello.