

## 2015-J3190

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring outgoing Chief Christopher M. Clement upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Merrick 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 honor outgoing Chief Christopher M. Clement upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Merrick Fire Department, celebrated at its 92nd Annual Inspection and Installation Dinner on Saturday, January 16, 2016, at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, Garden City, New York; 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, Many firefighters have lost their lives to save the lives of others; each and every day, they face danger and peril without fear and perform their job with the utmost concern and professionalism; 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; Chief Christopher M. Clement is such a firefighter; throughout his many years of devoted service, he heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life and property is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility their own by serving as firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works performed by the volunteer fire departments of this great Empire State, their officers and auxiliaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor outgoing Chief Christopher M. Clement upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Merrick Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Chief Christopher M. Clement.