

## 2015-J3616

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Firefighter Joseph Festa upon the occasion of being named Volunteer Firefighter of the Year by the Massapequa Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes great pride in acknowledging those esteemed individuals within the State of New York who distinguish themselves in service to their community; 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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Firefighter Joseph Festa upon the occasion of being named Volunteer Firefighter of the Year by the Massapequa Chamber of Commerce to be celebrated at its Awards Ceremony on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at Big Daddy's Restaurant in Massapequa, New York; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Festa began his illustrious career with Massapequa Fire Department Company No. 1 on October 27, 1969; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated volunteer for over four decades, Firefighter Joseph Festa has served as Department Secretary for many years, and has been a member of numerous fire committees; and

WHEREAS, In his selection as Firefighter of the Year, Joseph Festa truly exemplifies the collective concern of ordinary people across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without the thought of danger or reward when others are in need of help; 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, 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; Joseph Festa is such a firefighter; throughout his 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 Joseph Festa upon the occasion of being named Volunteer Firefighter of the Year by the Massapequa Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Firefighter Joseph Festa.