

## 2015-J4614

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring ex-Chief Richard Ackerson, Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Islip Fire Department Rescue Squad

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 ex-Chief Richard Ackerson, Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Islip Fire Department Rescue Squad, to be celebrated on Saturday, April 2, 2016; 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, Richard Ackerson, Sr. entered the ranks of the Islip Fire Department in September of 1956; throughout his illustrious tenure he was captain of both the Rescue Squad and Engine Company No. 2, served as Chief of the Islip Fire Department, and most recently served as rescue squad treasurer, the esteemed position from which he retired on January 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, One of the first advanced life support providers in the Islip Fire Department and the County of Suffolk, Richard Ackerson, Sr. is the first member of the Islip Fire Department to achieve 50 years of service to the Rescue Squad; he will have 60 years of service in September of this year; 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; Richard Ackerson, Sr. is such a firefighter; throughout his many 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 honor ex-Chief Richard Ackerson, Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Islip Fire Department Rescue Squad; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to ex-Chief Richard Ackerson, Sr.