2017-J1885

Senate Resolution No. 1885

BY: Senator YOUNG

HONORING Norman G. Sparks for 60 years of dedicated service to the Conesus Volunteer Fire Department

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant contributions made by New Yorkers to their communities in this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Norman G. Sparks for 60 years of dedicated service to the Conesus Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, The volunteer fire departments 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," volunteer fire departments have been the cornerstone of our great State's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters, fire departments, and their auxiliary organizations 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, Norman G. Sparks was born on May 4, 1933, in Rochester, New York; he attended Rochester West High School; and

WHEREAS, Norman G. Sparks was employed at Eastman Kodak in the Maintenance Department for 36 years and also worked at the BOCES-Geneseo Migrant Center until 1996; and

WHEREAS, Norman G. Sparks has been married to his wife, Jean, for 63 years, and together they are the adoring parents to six children; they have been further blessed with 12 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Norman G. Sparks has gone above and beyond the call of duty after serving in the United States Army during the Korean War, becoming the Commander/Chairman of the American Legion Post 1779, Town of Conesus Supervisor from 1990-1995, Livingston County Board of Supervisors from 1990-1995, Chairman of the Conesus Fire Commissioners from 1996-2017, President of the Cemetery Association, Conesus Methodist Church Lay Leader, and Chaplain of the Conesus Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Norman G. Sparks' favorite past times include traveling and reading books throughout his travels; and

WHEREAS, With 60 years of outstanding active fire service, the knowledge that he possesses and shares with others is remarkable and a testament to a true mentor, leader and friend; 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 carry out the vital mission of volunteer fire

departments; and

WHEREAS, Observing that special recognition should be given to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and that they should be acknowledged publicly for the good works they do for their families and neighbors in this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Norman G. Sparks for 60 years of dedicated service to the Conesus Volunteer Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, by transmitted to Norman G. Sparks.