

2017-J4451

Senate Resolution No. 4451

BY: Senator PHILLIPS

COMMEMORATING the 125th Anniversary of the Hicksville Fire Department to be celebrated on July 14, 2018

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Hicksville Fire Department to be celebrated at its Nassau County Fireman's Parade on Saturday, July 14, 2018, and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 125 years of fire protection to the citizens of Hicksville and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 125 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Hicksville Fire Department have valiantly responded to all types of fire emergencies and have won the praise and respect of the community which they serve; and

WHEREAS, On February 15, 1893, a meeting was held at the Grand Central Hotel to organize a volunteer fire department incorporating the three existing fire companies, Protection Hook and Ladder 1, Independent Engine & Hose 2, and Citizens Engine 3; and

WHEREAS, The Hicksville Fire District was organized on August 22, 1902, and the present fire headquarters on East Marie Street was

dedicated on January 2, 1932; and

WHEREAS, During this time, Arnold G. Heitz was elected as the first Hicksville Fire Department Chief; and

WHEREAS, As the community of Hicksville expanded, the fire department began to grow as well; Volunteer Hose Company 4 was organized on January 8, 1904, followed by Emergency Company 5 on September 14, 1928; and

WHEREAS, In October of 1955, a Rescue Squad was organized to perform the duties associated with an ambulance; and

WHEREAS, Hook and Ladder Company 6 was organized on February 6, 1956, followed by Engine Company 7 on April 25, 1957, and Flood Light Company 8 on September 29, 1966; in 1981, a Hazardous Material Response Team was formed before the establishment of a Fire Police Squad and a Technical Rescue Team; and

WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Hicksville Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 125 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of the Hicksville Fire Department are prepared to risk their lives every day to help save the lives of others and to protect homes and property from the destruction caused by fire; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the skill and devoted service demonstrated

by individual firefighters, the Hicksville Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 125 years; 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 proudly commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Hicksville Fire Department to be celebrated on July 14, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Hicksville Fire Department.