Senate Resolution No. 4619

**BY: Senator LAVALLE** 

HONORING Firefighter Wayne Van Middelem upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 35 years of dedicated service to the Mount Sinai Fire District

WHEREAS, Citizens across our State and Nation are inspired by and indebted to our noble volunteer firefighters who exhibit courage and bravery every day in the course of their duties; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer 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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Firefighter Wayne Van Middelem upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 35 years of dedicated service to the Mount Sinai Fire District, to be celebrated at its 88th Annual Inspection and Installation Dinner on Saturday, May 5, 2018, at Villa Lombardi's, Holbrook, New York; and

WHEREAS, Firefighters unwaveringly serve our great State with pride, valor, and integrity; these respected volunteers are often the first to

respond to an emergency, whether the emergency is a fire, transportation accident, natural disaster, act of terrorism, medical crisis, or spill of hazardous materials; 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, 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; Wayne Van Middelem is such a firefighter; throughout 35 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 Firefighter Wayne Van Middelem upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 35 years of dedicated service to the Mount Sinai Fire District; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Firefighter Wayne Van Middelem.