

2017-J5797

Senate Resolution No. 5797

BY: Senator YOUNG

HONORING the Lakewood Fire Department upon the occasion of celebrating its 125th Anniversary

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor fire departments and their members who have exhibited great dedication, courage and selflessness in protecting their neighbors from fire and other disasters in this great Empire State; and

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 State'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 honor the Lakewood Fire Department upon the occasion of celebrating its 125th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel not only provide the critical service of fire protection and medical care, but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to

the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, On October 13, 2018, the Lakewood Fire Department will be holding its Lakewood Firefighter Memorial dedication during their open house; this memorial, which sits on Chautauqua Avenue, is a memorial and tribute to their past, present and future members; it was built with financial resources through public donations along with membership and local manpower; and

WHEREAS, The Lakewood Fire Department dates back to 1893 with the Lakewood Bucket Brigade, and then the establishment of the Lakewood Hook and Ladder Company No. 1; in 1906, a high wheeled horse cart was donated to the fire department by J.W. Packard, who donated land for a new fire hall, and the department was presented with a 1915 Model T Ford Chemical Fire Engine; Lakewood's second fire company was formed and known as the Lakewood Chemical Company, Inc.; in the early 1950s, this was the first department in Chautauqua County to use mobile radio equipment; and

WHEREAS, By 1964, Lakewood Hose Company No. 1 and Lakewood Chemical Company, Inc. merged to become the present day Lakewood Fire Company, Inc.; over the years, the department has expanded with a training center, new fire station and museum, a state-of-the-art burn building, as well as establishing numerous other structures and upgrades; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, equipment has included: 13 engines, 4 heavy rescues, 2 ladder trucks, 6 ambulances, 2 station trucks, 1 medic unit, 12 chief cars and 5 boats; and

WHEREAS, The Lakewood Fire Department's district covers residential, commercial, agricultural and industrial areas; and

WHEREAS, The Lakewood Fire Department has provided an outstanding

service to families of the community over the last 125 years; 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 their heroic good works as volunteer firefighters in this great Empire State; and

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Lakewood Fire Department upon the occasion of celebrating its 125th Anniversary; and be it further

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