LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Firefighter James Westover Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to Westport Hose Company

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 commend Firefighter James Westover Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to Westport Hose Company to be celebrated Saturday, May 18, 2013 at the Westport Hose Company Banquet; and

WHEREAS, James Westover Sr. joined the Westport Hose Company on May 1, 1963; in addition to serving as a firefighter, he volunteered for the emergency squad, where he remains a driver of the ambulances today; 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, James Westover Sr. has been married for 63 years to his loving wife, Regina, with whom he has five children, Jim Jr., Dave, Doug, Jana, and Dennie; he is the proud grandfather of 10 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren; 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; James Westover Sr. is such a firefighter; throughout 50 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 commend Firefighter James Westover Sr. for 50 years of distinguished service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James Westover Sr.