LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the Cobleskill Fire Department upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2013 James W. Wright Public Education Award by the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body has the deepest pride and admiration for the fire departments of New York State which perform the crucial work of fire protection and fire prevention; and

WHEREAS, The courageous and devoted firefighters of the Cobleskill Fire Department of Cobleskill, New York, valiantly respond to all types of fire emergencies and engage in vital activities which help to prevent the loss of life and property from fires; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Cobleskill Fire Department upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2013 James W. Wright Public Education Award by the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, celebrated during the opening ceremony of the 40th Annual Public Fire Safety Educators' Conference on Saturday, May 4, 2013, at the New York State Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Association of Fire Chiefs has presented this prestigious award since 1995, in recognition of an individual or department for outstanding effort in delivering fire and life safety public education programs; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, under the luminous direction and leadership of Cobleskill President and Fire Prevention Coordinator William Johnson, Cobleskill Fire Department revamped its Fire Prevention Awareness Program, and has seen great success in reaching the community; the program is targeted toward the entire community, including children and toddlers, college students, adults, seniors, and citizens with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The Cobleskill Fire Department and its Fire Prevention Team reaches over 1300 residents via schools, businesses, housing developments, and the department's Fire Prevention Open House, held annually in October; and

WHEREAS, During the Fire Prevention Open House, the department offers hands on demonstrations to adults and children; through collaboration with the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, a Smoke Trailer and Fire Extinguisher Hands-on Training Simulator is utilized for family participation and education; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the annual Fire Prevention Program, during Fire Prevention Week, educates over 850 school children beginning in pre-kindergarten; firefighters visit each classroom individually, give fire safety demonstrations, and provide each child with fire safety information, as well as a tour of the truck; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Cobleskill Fire Department have a strong dedication and commitment to public and life safety education, and are therefore worthy of the highest praise and recognition; 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 fire departments of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Cobleskill Fire Department upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2013 James W. Wright Public Education Award by the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs; and be it further

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