LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Firefighter Jorge Batle upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those brave citizens within our midst, who have played a significant role in making our community a great place to live, and to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices that they have made to our society to ensure the safety and the advancement of the quality of life for all residents; and

WHEREAS, Within every community in the State of New York, there are certain individuals who unselfishly devote themselves to public service, and demonstrate great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Jorge Batle upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department to be celebrated at its Annual Banquet on Saturday, April 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department, which was founded in 1833, currently has three stations and 100 members on its roster; the station provides the residents of Skaneateles with services in the event of fire, medical emergencies, or any other occurrence that may threaten the public welfare, answering a record 391 calls in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Jorge Batle joined the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department in December of 1965; and

WHEREAS, Since then, Jorge Batle has served the department as Lieutenant, Captain, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief, Recording Secretary, and Vice President, as well as President from 1986-1987; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the long history of the Skaneateles Fire Department, one thing has remained constant, the dedication, hard work, commitment and sacrifices of outstanding men and women like Jorge Batle; 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; Jorge Batle 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; and

WHEREAS, Now 50 years later, Jorge Batle continues to serve the residents of Skaneateles, holding the positions of the Skaneateles Fire Department Historian and the Village Historian; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his volunteer fire service, Jorge Batle served as a Lieutenant of the Syracuse Fire Department, and then as a Skaneateles Village Codes Enforcement Officer before retiring from that position in 2015; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife, Beth Batle, who feels privileged to be a part of his life and rejoices in his achievements; she is the Town's historian and continues to collaborate with him on numerous preservation and restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the

recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Firefighter Jorge Batle upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Firefighter Jorge Batle.