

BY: Senator BROOKS

HONORING Ex-Chief Henry Hinrichs upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the North Merrick Volunteer Fire Department

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 Ex-Chief Henry "Sonny" Hinrichs upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the North Merrick Volunteer Fire Department to be celebrated at an awards presentation at the Sand Castle in Franklin Square, New York, on Saturday, February 4, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Sonny Hinrichs joined the North Merrick Volunteer Fire Department in October of 1967; throughout his 50 years of service, he held several positions within the Department including: 2nd Assistant Chief, 1974-1975; and 1st Assistant Chief, 1975-1976; as well as Chief from 1976-1977; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife, Ginny, who feels privileged to be a part of his life and rejoices in his achievements; 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, 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; Sonny Hinrichs 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 honor Ex-Chief Henry Hinrichs upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the North Merrick Volunteer Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ex-Chief Henry Hinrichs.