

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

COMMENDING the Believe 271 Foundation and the Oneida County Volunteer Firemen's Association upon the occasion of hosting its 3rd Annual Pink Tie Gala on October 19, 2019

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations of the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Believe 271 Foundation and the Oneida County Volunteer Firemen's Association upon the occasion of hosting its 3rd Annual Pink Tie Gala in recognition of first responders battling cancer on Saturday, October 19, 2019; and

WHEREAS, The Believe 271 Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization which was established in March of 2014, when a brother firefighter, Brian McQueen, badge number 271, was diagnosed with occupational cancer; his badge number became the icon of the foundation; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, this vital organization provides financial assistance to volunteer firefighters, EMT's and members of ladies auxiliaries in Oneida and Herkimer Counties who suffer from a life-threatening illness, such as cancer; and

WHEREAS, Cancer for firefighters is two to three times more common than that of the average person; realizing through research that occupational cancer would affect 62% of firefighters, the Believe 271 Foundation created an educational program to take across the state to educate volunteer firefighters on the dangers they face; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Believe 271 Foundation has gifted over \$198,000 to 63 firefighters and their families who are struggling with cancer and life threatening illnesses; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Believe 271 Foundation is in direct correlation to the efforts of its dedicated volunteers, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Believe 271 Foundation; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when

individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Believe 271 Foundation and the Oneida County Volunteer Firemen's Association upon the occasion of hosting its 3rd Annual Pink Tie Gala on October 19, 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Believe 271 Foundation and the Oneida County Volunteer Firemen's Association.