

BY: Senator BROOKS

HONORING Firefighter John Maes upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 45 years of dedicated service to the North Lindenhurst 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 Firefighter John Maes upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 45 years of dedicated service to the North Lindenhurst Fire Department to be celebrated at its Annual Inspection/Installation Dinner on Saturday, May 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter John Maes joined the North Lindenhurst Fire Department on September 4, 1976, as an active Firefighter in Hook, Ladder and Engine Company No. 3; his service to the department was interrupted when he proudly served his country as a member of the United States Marines; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his valiant military service, John Maes returned to the North Lindenhurst Fire Department, where he has held several positions on the Executive Board, including 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President and President; he was also a member of the New York State Drill Team Champion, "Piston Knockers"; and

WHEREAS, John Maes' spirit of service to his fellow citizens was truly demonstrated during the World Trade Center tragedy when he organized a group of volunteers to respond to ground zero, assisting residents in retrieving their personal belongings and pets, as well as delivering donated supplies; 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; John Maes is one such firefighter; throughout 45 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 Firefighter John Maes upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 45 years of dedicated service to the North Lindenhurst Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Firefighter John Maes.