

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Firefighter William J. Palmer, Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Ovid Fire Department

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commend Firefighter William J. Palmer, Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Ovid Fire Department, to be observed at an Open House Celebration on Sunday, October 21, 2012, at the Ovid Fire House, Ovid, New York; and

WHEREAS, William J. Palmer, Sr. began his career as a firefighter on January 2, 1962, with the Ovid Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, After enlisting in the United States Navy, William J. Palmer, Sr. began serving as a member of Lakeshore Volunteer Fire Department in Jacksonville, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Upon returning to New York, William J. Palmer, Sr. continued his service to the Ovid Fire Department, serving as Lieutenant, Captain, 2nd Assistant Chief, 1st Assistant Chief, and finally as Chief of the Ovid Fire Department, a position he still holds today; and

WHEREAS, William J. Palmer, Sr. also serves as a member of Ovid Fire Department's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, William J. Palmer, Sr.'s accolades include Lakeshore Volunteer Fire Department's Firefighter of the Year in 1967, Seneca County's Firefighter of the Year Awards in 1984 and 2006, and Seneca County's 2003 Pete Scannell Award; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his firematic career, William J. Palmer, Sr. retired in 2006 from the Village of Ovid as Superintendent of Public Works with almost 40 years of service; and

WHEREAS, A valued and involved member of his community, William J. Palmer, Sr. has served as Chairman and member of the Ovid Strawberry Festival Committee for over 20 years, and is also a Town of Ovid Councilman; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Bonnie, their six children, Chris, Tim, Julie, John, Arlo, and William Jr., 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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; William J. Palmer, Sr. is such a firefighter; throughout his 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 commend Firefighter William J. Palmer, Sr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Ovid Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to William J. Palmer, Sr.