

BY: Senator O'MARA

COMMENDING Firefighter Michael S. Smith upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Southport 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 commend Firefighter Michael S. Smith upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Southport Fire Department to be celebrated at its Annual Banquet on Saturday, February 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Michael S. Smith has been a very active member of the Southport Fire Department; throughout his 50 years of service, he has held several positions within the Department including: Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief both days and nights, and Fire Chief for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Michael S. Smith has also been instrumental in the success of various department benefits and served for four years as President of the New York State Emergency Management Association; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his work with the Department, Michael S. Smith was employed with Hardings and Purolator Products, before holding the title of Director of Fire and Emergency Management of Chemung County for 23 years; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, LuAnn, and their two children, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice 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; Michael S. Smith is one such 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 commend Firefighter Michael S. Smith upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Southport Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Firefighter Michael S. Smith.