

BY: Senator BORRELLO

HONORING Firefighter John R. Winterhalter upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 62 years of dedicated service to the Belmont Fire Company

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 R. Winterhalter upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 62 years of dedicated service to the Belmont Fire Company, celebrated at the Allegany County Volunteer Firemen's Association's 104th Annual Convention on Wednesday, July 10, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Born to Frederick and Pearl Winterhalter on March 13, 1936, in Belmont, New York, John R. Winterhalter, affectionately known as Jack, graduated from Belmont Central School in 1954, before proudly serving his country as a member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, John R. Winterhalter joined the Belmont Fire Company on September 3, 1957; he quickly rose through the ranks and served as Department Chief from 1970 to 1973; he also served as Company President from 1979 to 1981; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to his community, John R. Winterhalter has served the Village of Belmont in many capacities, including multiple terms as Mayor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Helen, and their three children, Mary Jo (Mike), Jeffrey (Christa) and Gregory (Ellen), as well as eight grandchildren, David, Amber (Phillip), Devin (Wilson), Megan, Dylan (Marissa), Alex, Joshua and Jacob, and one great-grandson, Landyn; 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 R. Winterhalter is one such firefighter; throughout 62 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 R. Winterhalter upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 62 years of dedicated service to the Belmont Fire Company; and be it further

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