

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

HONORING Fred DiStefano upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 40 years of dedicated service to the Frankfort Center 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 Fred DiStefano upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 40-year Service Award by the Frankfort Center Fire Department in recognition of his exceptional service, leadership, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Fred DiStefano joined the Frankfort Center Fire Department in February 1985, embarking on a path of public service that would span four decades, marked by courage, integrity, and unwavering commitment to the safety of others; and

WHEREAS, During his distinguished tenure, Fred DiStefano served in numerous key positions, including EMS Captain, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief, and Chief, each of which reflected his increasing responsibility and the trust placed in him by his peers and community; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his operational roles, Fred DiStefano served as President of the Frankfort Center Fire Department for an outstanding 18 years, during which time he exemplified principled leadership and worked tirelessly to support the department's mission and its members; and

WHEREAS, In 1995, Fred DiStefano was recognized as the Herkimer County Firefighter of the Year for his heroism and professionalism at the scene of a serious motor vehicle accident involving live power lines, a moment that stands as a testament to his bravery and readiness in the face of danger; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his 40 years of service, Fred DiStefano has demonstrated an enduring commitment to protecting lives and property, inspiring his fellow firefighters and serving as a role model to younger generations; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a selfless and compassionate individual whose legacy of service will endure for years

to come; 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; Fred DiStefano is such a firefighter; throughout 40 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 Fred DiStefano upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 40 years of dedicated service to the Frankfort Center Fire Department, fully confident that his tireless efforts and steadfast devotion to the community will continue to inspire all who have the privilege of knowing and working with him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Fred DiStefano.