

No. R-119. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Clarendon Fire Association, Inc. on its 50th anniversary.

(H.C.R.82)

Offered by: Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Batchelor of Derby, Bouchard of Colchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Consejo of Sheldon, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Gallivan of Chittenden, Helm of Fair Haven, Malcolm of Pawlet, Marek of Newfane, Quimby of Concord, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Pittsford, Stevens of Shoreham, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Townsend of Randolph, and Turner of Milton

Whereas, after fires destroyed several Clarendon landmarks in the early 1960s, a community consensus emerged to form a local volunteer fire department, and

Whereas, as a result of this sentiment, on October 20, 1963, interested citizens met to organize the Clarendon Fire Association, and

Whereas, Charles Ketcham served briefly as the first chief and upon his resignation, Alan Ridlon was appointed as his successor, and

Whereas, on November 12, 1963, the first meeting of Clarendon Fire Association volunteers was convened at the Clarendon Grange Hall, and

Whereas, this newly formed fire department soon spent \$500.00 to purchase a 1947 Chevrolet 1,000-gallon tanker equipped with a portable pump, and

Whereas, in the spring of 1964, for \$250.00, the Association bought a two-story barn in Rutland that was dismantled and reconstructed in Clarendon as a two-bay fire station which included a second floor meeting room, and

Whereas, by the time the Clarendon Fire Association's first annual report was issued, 18 volunteer firefighters had completed a basic training course, and another six had reached the advance level, and

Whereas, a milestone was reached in 1966 when the Association entered into a mutual aid pact with the Rutland City Fire Department, and

Whereas, in 1967, the members of the Clarendon Fire Association were extremely proud when Chief Alan Ridlon was selected as the first recipient of Vermont's Fireman of the Year Award, and

Whereas, that same year, the Clarendon Fire Association won several firefighting awards, including the Koltanski Trophy, the Most in Line of March Award, and other honors, and

Whereas, over the decades, the Clarendon Fire Association has modernized its truck fleet and equipment and improved its radio communications, and

Whereas, members of the Clarendon Fire Association include firefighters who have met the qualifications for Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, and Hazardous Material Operations designation, and

Whereas, in 2013, the Clarendon Fire Association is celebrating its 50th anniversary and is extremely proud of the professional quality service it provides with an all-volunteer force, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Clarendon Fire Association, Inc. on its 50th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Clarendon Fire Association.