

No. R-87. House concurrent resolution honoring Tunbridge Fire Chief John W. Durkee for 20 years of exemplary leadership.

(H.C.R.64)

Offered by: Representative Ainsworth of Royalton

Whereas, volunteer fire departments perform an essential public safety role in municipalities throughout Vermont, and

Whereas, the Vermonters serving as volunteer firefighters are dedicated citizens, making extraordinary personal sacrifices to protect their neighbors' lives and property, and

Whereas, 36 years ago, John Durkee joined the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department (the department) and has been an active member ever since, and

Whereas, he mastered the technical and leadership skills necessary to perform his firefighting duties expertly and assist in guiding the department's administrative deliberations, and

Whereas, 20 years ago, John Durkee assumed the position of Tunbridge Fire Chief, and

Whereas, Chief Durkee's incredible dedication to ensuring the safety of Tunbridge's residents and visitors is widely admired, and

Whereas, he contributed to the development of a viable emergency management plan for Tunbridge, and

Whereas, similarly, Chief Durkee's foresight enabled the town to develop an effective emergency response protocol should a major accident or fire occur during the Tunbridge World's Fair or at another event held at the town's fairgrounds, and

Whereas, Chief Durkee is a conscientious steward of his town's financial resources, and he determined that Tunbridge could function with one fewer fire truck, and

Whereas, he spearheaded the development of a long-range budgetary plan for replacing dated equipment, and

Whereas, under Chief Durkee's leadership, Tunbridge invested in a fire truck employing an innovative compressed air foam system that can combat fires more efficiently than other equipment, and

Whereas, after an outstanding 20-year tenure as the Tunbridge Fire Chief, John Durkee is concluding his leadership role but will remain a proud Tunbridge firefighter, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Tunbridge Fire Chief John W. Durkee for 20 years of exemplary leadership, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John Durkee.