

No. R-327. House concurrent resolution congratulating Shaftsbury First Assistant Fire Chief Michael Taylor on being named the 2024 Shaftsbury Ordinary Hero Award winner.

(H.C.R.248)

Offered by: Representative Durfee of Shaftsbury

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, in 2014, the Shaftsbury Historical Society (the Society) presented its first Ordinary Hero Award to the late author Ruth Levin, whose book, *Ordinary Heroes: The Story of Shaftsbury*, describes the early citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury who contributed heroically to the development of the community, and

Whereas, in 2024, the Society resumed its presentation of this accolade and, after careful review of potential honorees, selected Vermont Technical College graduate and Shaftsbury First Assistant Fire Chief Mike Taylor as this year's honoree, and

Whereas, 24 years ago, Mike Taylor joined the Shaftsbury Fire Department (the Department) and proved to be an outstanding firefighter, and

Whereas, in 2008, his firefighting colleagues selected Mike Taylor as their second assistant fire chief; and, a decade later, recognizing his natural leadership ability, chose him as the Department's first assistant chief; and his financial and administrative acumen have resulted in his designation as both secretary and treasurer of the Department, and

Whereas, among his departmental responsibilities were leading the vehicle extrication team and an associated instructor's role, and

Whereas, Mike Taylor chairs the Vermont State Firefighters' Association's judging and awards committee, and

Whereas, his sons, Nick and Ian Taylor, of whom Mike and Sue Taylor, his wife of 45 years, are proud, have followed their father into the Department, and

Whereas, in a related role, Mike Taylor has served on the Bennington Rescue Squad's Board of Trustees, and

Whereas, Mike Taylor is hardworking, reliable, and always goes above and beyond the call of duty, and he is an ideal choice for this special recognition, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Shaftsbury First Assistant Fire Chief Michael Taylor on being named the 2024 Shaftsbury Ordinary Hero Award winner, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Michael Taylor and to the Shaftsbury Fire Department.