

No. R-82. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the East Montpelier Fire Department on its 50th anniversary.

(S.C.R.7)

By Senators Doyle, Cummings, and Pollina,

Whereas, local volunteer firefighters and emergency rescue personnel are essential to the protection of property and life in Vermont's communities, and

Whereas, for many years, the town of East Montpelier lacked a firefighting force and paid Montpelier for this service, and

Whereas, in May 1964, a group of citizens gathered at the Center School to organize the East Montpelier Volunteer Fire Department and elected Bob Simon as chief as well as several assistant chiefs, and

Whereas, the Department's first truck was a 1954 converted Ford PTO oil tanker that was used as a water pumper, and

Whereas, the early milestones in the Department's history included the creation of a women's auxiliary and providing fire coverage for neighboring Calais, and

Whereas, the East Montpelier Volunteer Fire Department was one of the seven charter members of the Capital Fire Mutual Aid System, and

Whereas, in 1969, CB radios were introduced, and

Whereas, in 1975, the Department was renamed the East Montpelier Fire Department, and

Whereas, the scope of services was broadened when an emergency medical response capacity was introduced, and

Whereas, over the last half century, the Department has expanded its fleet of firefighting vehicles, modernized its communications system, and stayed current with the latest firefighting and emergency medical response technologies, and

Whereas, in 2015, the East Montpelier Fire Department is headquartered in a spacious four-bay facility, and

Whereas, Chief Ty Rolland and the Department's capable members are always prepared to respond to fire and medical emergencies in East Montpelier and Calais and assist other municipalities through the mutual aid system, and

Whereas, on August 16, 2014, the East Montpelier Fire Department commemorated its 50th anniversary with a memorial service for past members, including those who died in the line of duty, and a festive celebration that concluded with fireworks, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the East Montpelier Fire Department 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 East Montpelier Fire Department.