

In Support Of The East Kingston Volunteer Fire Company's Application To The United States Department Of Homeland Security For The Assistance To Firefighters Grant Program

Legislators Berardi and Maloney and the Criminal Justice/Public Safety/Stop DWI Committee (Chairman Meyer and Legislators Aiello, DePew, Every, Dart, Feldmann and Hyatt), offer the following:

WHEREAS, the East Kingston Volunteer Fire Company is the primary response fire/emergency unit for the Ulster County side of the Kingston Rhinecliff Bridge, maintaining a fire station within its one mile radius, and

WHEREAS, the Kingston Rhinecliff Bridge is a critical piece of highway infrastructure connecting Ulster County with northern Dutchess County allowing over 7 million vehicles a year to cross over the Hudson River, and

WHEREAS, the Kingston Rhinecliff Bridge also functions as an alternate route for vehicles in the event of a traffic disruption at the Mid-Hudson Bridge; responsible for 13.5 million vehicles a year, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan cited in it's Executive Summary that "HAZ MAT in transit" (Hazardous Materials is the greatest threat in Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, the safety of the volunteer firefighter is crucial to effective vehicular emergency response, a proper respiratory breathing apparatus being an essential part of that effort.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature supports the grant application of the East Kingston Volunteer Fire Company to the United States Department of Homeland Security in an effort to secure 17 OSHA compliant Scott Air Paks helping to secure a crucial highway bridge transportation link,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 32 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Hathaway)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE