

2016 -- S 2728

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING JAMES E. TAYLOR ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT AFTER TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF DEVOTED
AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF PROVIDENCE

Introduced By: Senators Pichardo, Ruggerio, Goodwin, Ciccone, and Metts

Date Introduced: March 09, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, James E. Taylor began his distinguished public service career as a
2 firefighter when he graduated from the Training Academy in 1989. His first duty assignment was
3 with Ladder Company 5, serving as a Firefighter and EMT. His duty assignments were varied,
4 ranging from providing fire protection and performing search and rescue, to responding to gas
5 leaks and car rollovers, and working alongside rescue companies. In addition, while performing
6 his normal duties, he apprehended a purse snatcher. For his service above and beyond, he
7 received a Citizens Award from the Providence Police Department and a Citation from the Rhode
8 Island Department of Elderly Affairs; and

9 WHEREAS, From 1991 to 1995, and from 1996 to 1999, Mr. Taylor served as a
10 Firefighter and EMT with Engine Company 10. Between his two stints with Engine Company 10,
11 he served from 1995 to 1996 as a Chief's Aid with Battalion 3. His duties included providing
12 technical assistance at emergency scenes, maintaining fire ground accountability, ascertaining
13 each unit's position and activity, and advising the Chief of conditions warranting immediate
14 attention; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor was promoted to the position of Dispatcher Lieutenant in 1999,
16 and was assigned to serve with the Bureau of Operational Control, where he was responsible for
17 maintaining accurate receipts and transmissions of alarms while on duty. He was also responsible
18 for assigning personnel to their respective operating positions, supervising two civilian fire
19 dispatchers, and performing the duties of Dispatcher Captain during absences. He received a Unit

1 Citation for keeping an individual calm on the phone while firefighters saved her from a burning
2 house; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor was promoted to the position of Dispatcher Captain in 2002, and
4 was responsible for ensuring the accurate and effective dispatching of departmental units and
5 personnel. He was the supervisor of 12 civilian dispatchers and five dispatcher lieutenants and
6 also oversaw staffing, payroll, and scheduling within the division. He had numerous
7 accomplishments during his tenure as Dispatcher Captain including, developing and
8 implementing all training programs for dispatchers, implementing a new Computer Aided
9 Dispatch System (CAD), and rebuilding 1500 cards for dispatching; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2006, Mr. Taylor was promoted to the position of Chief of
11 Communications for the Bureau of Operational Control. In this position, he was responsible for
12 the management of the Operational Control Room and served as the official liaison between the
13 Providence Fire Department and the Department of Telecommunications. His varied duties
14 included planning, managing and directing operations, monitoring compliance with regulatory
15 standards, and providing the prompt response of companies and units to alarms of fire and other
16 calls for assistance in other emergencies. In addition, he was instrumental in implementing the
17 800MHz Radio System for the Providence Fire Department, implementing BDA ordinance and
18 submitting it for passage by the Providence City Council, updating inventory lists of master boxes
19 within the city, and effecting a \$500.00 annual fee ordinance for master boxes that was passed by
20 the City Council; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor was promoted to the position of Administrative Aide to the
22 Chief of Department, where he currently serves. He reports directly to the Chief of Department or
23 the Acting Chief of Department and his responsibilities include updating and maintaining the
24 Injury Track Report of members injured on duty or on sick leave, conducting investigations of
25 disciplinary infractions, identifying potential operational and administrative cost savings to the
26 Department, and overseeing departmental billing practices for EMS through Comstar along with
27 Master Box and Plan Review Fees. He has also been responsible for preparing and submitting the
28 Annual Report for each division within the fire department for the past four years; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor graduated from Providence College in 1993, with an Associate
30 of Science/Fire Science degree. He is also a licensed State of Rhode Island Emergency Medical
31 Technician-Cardiac License. In his spare time, he has served as the Vice President and President
32 of the Elmwood Little League; and

33 WHEREAS, James E. Taylor is a resident of Providence. He has always been very
34 involved in community affairs and has devoted countless hours to charitable endeavors and

1 efforts to strengthen the community. As a member of the Providence Fire Department, he was
2 known for his exemplary work ethic, his ability to communicate effectively with others, his
3 superb leadership skills, and his superior problem solving skills. Mr. Taylor will be sorely missed
4 by his colleagues within the Providence Fire Department; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
6 hereby congratulates James E. Taylor on his retirement from the Providence Fire Department
7 after twenty-eight years of devoted and meritorious service to the citizens of Providence. We
8 wish him a most happy retirement and continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. James E. Taylor.

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