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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING FRANK M. SYLVESTER, CHIEF OF THE LIME ROCK FIRE DEPARTMENT, ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER FIFTY YEARS OF DEVOTED AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR NATION AND THE CITIZENS OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators E O'Neill, Doyle, and Nesselbush

Date Introduced: June 09, 2016

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1           WHEREAS, Frank M. Sylvester, Chief of the Lime Rock Fire Department in Lincoln,  
2 Rhode Island, is retiring after serving our nation and the citizens of Rhode Island with tireless  
3 devotion and exemplary service for the past fifty years. His faithful and dutiful service to our  
4 nation began in 1953, when he served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He  
5 received an Honorable Discharge in 1955. He later enlisted in the United States Coast Guard  
6 Reserve in 1976, where he was selected and appointed to serve as Command Enlisted Advisor.  
7 He retired in 1994 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer; and

8           WHEREAS, Chief Sylvester worked from 1955 to 1965 for the Newman Crosby Steel  
9 Company, serving as the Secretary-Treasurer of Local 3333 of the United Steelworkers of  
10 America; and

11           WHEREAS, In 1966, Chief Sylvester began his distinguished public service career as a  
12 firefighter with the Pawtucket Fire Department, retiring in 1988, with the rank of Lieutenant. He  
13 served as Officer in Charge of the Pawtucket Rescue, and later was appointed to serve as Acting  
14 Battalion Chief. He also served as President of Local 1261, IAFF; and

15           WHEREAS, Chief Sylvester has served as the Fire Chief of the Lime Rock Fire  
16 Department from 1988 to October of 2007, and again from 2008 to the present. He was appointed  
17 as the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal by Governor Donald Carcieri. He received numerous  
18 honors during his public service career including the Medal of Heroism, a Certificate of  
19 Appreciation from the Pawtucket Jaycees, the Medal of Merit from the Pawtucket Fire

1 Department, and the Medal of Heroism from the American Legion; and

2 WHEREAS, Chief Sylvester has also served and supported numerous public service and  
3 nonprofit associations and boards including the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs, serving  
4 as President from 1993 to 1994, the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, serving as President  
5 from 2000 to 2001, and the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He is also a member of the  
6 Rhode Island Fire Instructor Association, served as President of the Blackstone Valley Central  
7 Labor Council, and served as the Chairman of the American Heart Association Fund Drive in  
8 1978; and

9 WHEREAS, Chief Sylvester earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Administration from  
10 Roger Williams College in 1975. He has also completed graduate level course work in  
11 Administration Studies from Harvard University. Chief Sylvester was a Fire Science Instructor at  
12 the Community College of Rhode Island from 1977 to 1988, and served as an Adjunct Faculty  
13 Member for the National Fire Academy in 1980. Since 1981, he has served as an  
14 Instructor/Trainer for the American Heart Association, as a Certified Marine  
15 Firefighter/Coordinator for the United States Coast Guard, and as an LNG/LPG Boarding  
16 Officer/Instructor; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
18 hereby congratulates Chief Frank M. Sylvester on his retirement after fifty years of meritorious  
19 service to our nation and the citizens of Rhode Island. We furthermore wish him a most happy  
20 retirement and continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
22 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Chief Frank M. Sylvester.

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