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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

CELEBRATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF HOPE-JACKSON
FIRE COMPANY

Introduced By: Senator Nicholas D.Kettle

Date Introduced: June 03, 2014

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Scituate, Rhode Island, was once a manufacturing center thanks in large part
2 to the ingenuity of the Brown Brothers and Stephen Hopkins, who purchased land in the Village
3 of Hope and established the Hope Furnace company for making iron, and where canons were cast
4 for the American Revolutionary War effort; and

5 WHEREAS, Scituate soon became a vibrant manufacturing community, due in part to its
6 abundance of water. It had large mills producing cotton and woolen goods, shoes and shoe laces,
7 combs, and other assorted goods. However, all of this manufacturing also brought with it a fear of
8 fires and how to deal with them; and

9 WHEREAS, In the early 1920's, the residents of the Hope Village area came together and
10 decided that a volunteer fire company was needed. Otis Luther, Charles Campbell, the Lambert
11 family, Joe Donley, Clifford Nutall, Waldo Waley and Forest Leach were some of the residents
12 that were influential in the founding of the Hope and Jackson Fire Company, which held its first
13 meeting on December 13, 1924; and

14 WHEREAS, Otis B. Luther, a janitor and school bus driver for the Hope School, was
15 chosen to be the first Chief and, with help from others, took a leadership role in establishing the
16 Company. The Company received its first apparatus in 1924, which included hand carts and a
17 hand tub. In 1925, the Company purchased land on Main Street and the school annex building
18 located on the property was converted into a firehouse. It was from this location that members of
19 the fire company would respond to a fire; and

1 WHEREAS, On June 7, 1929, the fire company voted to appropriate twenty dollars to
2 have chowder on July 4th. The idea was to hold a family outing around the 4th of July every year
3 on Doctor's Lane. As time passed, these outings became public events and currently, on every
4 July 3rd, an outing is held at the firehouse with clam cakes and chowder being served, and
5 fireworks being displayed; and

6 WHEREAS, The Hope-Jackson Fire Company currently has approximately 110
7 volunteers. They serve a rural town of about 12,600 people and respond to an average of 1,750
8 fire and emergency calls. For the last ninety years, the Hope-Jackson Fire Department has been a
9 vital resource to the citizens of Scituate, saving countless lives, homes, businesses and personal
10 property; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
12 hereby celebrates the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the Hope-Jackson Fire Company; and
13 be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Hope-Jackson Fire Company Chief, Donald S.
16 Campbell.

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