

No. R-1. House concurrent resolution honoring Newport City Fire Department Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. and Firefighter Ryan Abel on their successful September 2018 rescue effort.

(H.C.R.1)

Offered by: Representatives Marcotte of Coventry and Page of Newport City

Offered by: Senators Rodgers and Starr

Whereas, late in the evening of September 28, 2018, in response to reports of activated smoke alarms and smoke, departmental personnel and equipment were dispatched to apartment number two at 25 Oak Street in Newport City, and

Whereas, the first to reach the scene was Chief James LeClair Sr., who saw the ferocity of the smoke engulfing the apartment and was told that the apartment's resident remained trapped inside, and

Whereas, as soon as the first fire truck arrived, Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. and Firefighter Ryan Abel broke the apartment's locked door, entered the apartment, and located the breathing, but clearly disoriented, resident lying in a chair, and

Whereas, these quick-acting firefighters rescued the imperiled resident and brought the individual to the waiting EMS crew for transport to the hospital, and

Whereas, the department's hose team then extinguished the fire, and firefighters identified unattended food cooking on the resident's stove as the fire's cause, and

Whereas, First Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. is a nine-year departmental veteran, is Firefighter 2 certified, a certified Aircraft Rescue Firefighter, a firefighter with the Vermont Air National Guard, and a full-time Newport City police officer, and

Whereas, this was a second successful rescue for Firefighter Ryan Abel, who is an 11-year departmental veteran and is Firefighter 1 certified and who manages Feed Commodities in Newport, and

Whereas, each of these firefighters epitomizes the department's high level of professionalism, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Newport City Fire Department Lieutenant James LeClair Jr. and Firefighter Ryan Abel on their successful September 2018 rescue effort, and

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Newport City Fire Chief James LeClair Sr., Lieutenant James LeClair Jr., Firefighter Ryan Abel, and Newport City Manager Laura Dolgin.