

No. R-346. House concurrent resolution in memory of Michael J. Garofano and Michael G. Garofano.

(H.C.R.261)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, the city of Rutland suffered a grievous loss when Water Treatment and Resource Manager Michael J. Garofano and his son, Michael G. Garofano, perished while trying to check the water system during the fiercest moments of Tropical Storm Irene, and

Whereas, Michael J. Garofano's death robbed the community of a unique public servant whose dedication to his job and personal work ethic were truly amazing, and

Whereas, each work day, he would be on the job at 6 a.m. in order to monitor the city's water supply to the maximum extent possible, and

Whereas, Michael J. Garofano's concern that the reservoir should be protected from gasoline and similar contaminants was the primary motivation for the installation of a hydrocarbon alarm system, which he faithfully maintained for 17 years, and

Whereas, he personally assisted in the cutting of lumber at a local sawmill for a new supply shed, minimizing the project's supply costs, and

Whereas, Michael J. Garofano was the protector of the Rutland City reservoir, and the fierceness of his demeanor when speaking about the water

system represented his constant focus on the special responsibility with which the city had entrusted him, and

Whereas, Michael G. Garofano had accompanied his father on the fateful day of August 28 to assist him in any way that might be of service in guaranteeing the safety of the water system, and

Whereas, both men had graduated from Vermont Technical College, had deep roots in the community, and were members of a closely knit family, and

Whereas, on September 9, 2011, a well-attended hero's funeral was conducted for Michael J. Garofano while the search for his son went on for a further two weeks, and

Whereas, two months later, a benefit pasta dinner raised \$3,000.00 for the Garofano family's memorial fund, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its most sincere condolences to the family of father and son, Michael J. Garofano and Michael G. Garofano, who are true heroes of the city of Rutland, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Michael J. Garofano's widow, Celestine, son, Thomas, and parents in Rutland.