

Enrolled
House Concurrent Resolution 16

Sponsored by Representative EVANS

Whereas Allen Lindskog began his firefighting career in 1979 as a volunteer in Independence, Oregon, and immediately he proved to be a consistent, capable and reliable volunteer; and

Whereas just over three years later, Allen Lindskog had completed all three steps of his firefighter certification and become an engineer with the Independence Fire Department; and

Whereas Allen Lindskog excelled as an engineer and was committed to serving in that capacity for 35 years, despite being offered many opportunities for promotion; and

Whereas in 1984 Allen Lindskog became a certified emergency medical technician, after which, in addition to responding to fires and motor vehicle accidents, he began signing up to be on call overnight to respond in an ambulance to medical emergencies; and

Whereas when the Independence Fire Department merged with other departments in the area in 1985 to create Polk County Fire District No. 1, Allen Lindskog continued to serve that larger community and maintained nearly perfect drill attendance; and

Whereas Allen Lindskog has received many honors from the fire district over the years, including awards as both the top fire responder and the top emergency medical services responder, the Night Owl award (for the most evening responses) and the Chief's Award; and

Whereas in March 2003, one of the fire district's engines crashed, killing Captain Tom Kistler, one of Allen Lindskog's closest friends, but his commitment and dedication never wavered, and his positive attitude was a source of strength and inspiration to the entire organization; and

Whereas even after he retires, Allen Lindskog will continue to lead the cleanup efforts for the road segment that has been named in Captain Kistler's honor; and

Whereas in the past five years, when many firefighters his age have already transitioned into retirement, Allen Lindskog averaged more than 120 hours of training and 100 emergency responses per year; and

Whereas Allen Lindskog's peers—all of whom are younger—note that he is physically more capable as a firefighter than most 20-year-olds; and

Whereas many in the community never knew Allen Lindskog by name, but he was there in their worst moments and their times of need, trying desperately to make things better; and

Whereas despite not wanting promotion into a formal leadership position, Allen Lindskog became one of the most vital, influential and respected leaders the fire district has ever had; and

Whereas in January 2019, Allen Lindskog made the decision to finally hang up his turnouts and retire; and

Whereas Allen Lindskog's 39-year career of selfless service impacted thousands of lives and made his community a better and safer place; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor firefighter Allen Lindskog, and we express our gratitude for his service to Polk County and the State of Oregon; and be it further

Resolved, That we wish Allen Lindskog well in his retirement.

Adopted by House April 8, 2019

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate April 22, 2019

Peter Courtney, President of Senate