

No. R-327. House concurrent resolution congratulating Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee on the district's designation as a Class II water system.

(H.C.R.256)

Offered by: Representative Acinapura of Brandon

Whereas, in 1985, the state of Vermont adopted the Groundwater Protection Rule and Strategies with four classifications of drinkable groundwater ranging from Class IV (the lowest) to Class I (the highest), and

Whereas, Brandon Fire District #1 operates a groundwater-based drinking water system that serves approximately 3,865 people and does not apply any chemicals or other purification process to the water, and

Whereas, in 2000, Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter sought to upgrade the quality and classification of the system, but the state responded that the upgrading procedures were not yet established, and

Whereas, according to the *Brandon Reporter*, as a preliminary measure, Superintendent Ray Counter partnered with the Vermont Geological Survey to obtain federal STATEMAP funds "to map the surface geology and produce maps for groundwater resources," and he also secured United States Environmental Protection Agency support to investigate the system's hydraulic connection, and

Whereas, although these projects were completed several years ago, the water quality division only recently completed the procedures for system

classification review, and the district completed the newly developed process, and

Whereas, as a condition of being awarded an improved classification, the district agreed to not engage in activities detrimental to the purity of the water including: not creating improperly constructed or protected wells; not installing underground storage tanks that do not meet agency of natural resources standards; and not discharging into the groundwater hazardous or radioactive waste, and

Whereas, the Brandon Fire District #1 water system was recently elevated to Class II status, the first and currently the only water district in Vermont to have earned this level of classification, and

Whereas, the recent upgrading of Brandon Fire District #1's system to Class II is an especially noteworthy accomplishment for which Superintendent Ray Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee are to be commended, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee on the district's designation as a Class II water system, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter in Brandon and to the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee.