

## 2023-J1722

Senate Resolution No. 1722

BY: Senator THOMAS

COMMENDING Robert Shuford upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, nobly risking their own lives in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Robert Shuford upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Robert Shuford, a longtime resident of Hempstead, New York, and a dedicated fixture in the community, embarked on his career journey with Stop & Shop on September 30, 2001; and

WHEREAS, From the outset, Robert Shuford exhibited an unparalleled work ethic, earning the role of night crew chief through his assiduous dedication to excellence; his commitment to doing his best in every endeavor foreshadowed the extraordinary heroism he would display on May 25, 2023, a day that would etch his name into the annals of local lore; and

WHEREAS, On that fateful day, as Robert Shuford prepared to open Stop & Shop, a sudden and ominous sound shattered the tranquility; without hesitation, he followed the clamor to its source and was confronted with a scene of chaos - an overturned semi-truck emanating billows of black smoke; and

WHEREAS, Responding without hesitation, Robert Shuford, unflinchingly pressed forward; undeterred by the potential peril, he approached the scene, his focus unwavering; and

WHEREAS, Despite the risks, he chose to prioritize aiding those affected by the accident, as he drew closer to the overturned truck, he discovered the injured driver and promptly offered his assistance; and

WHEREAS, His selfless actions did not go unnoticed, and Robert Shuford was rightfully recognized as a local hero by Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman; to honor his valor, June 15, 2023, was declared Robert Shuford Day, a testament to his courage and community spirit; and

WHEREAS, Beyond his heroic feat, Robert Shuford is deeply ingrained in the fabric of the Hempstead community; he actively contributes to the welfare of his community through his involvement with the organization, "All the Way 100 percent"; this commitment to community well-being exemplifies Robert's dedication to making Hempstead a better place for

all; and

WHEREAS, In his personal life, Robert Shuford finds joy and fulfillment in his role as a devoted husband, happily married to his wife Tina, together they navigate life's journey with shared values and a commitment to the well-being of each other and their community; and

WHEREAS, Robert Shuford's story is not merely one of professional success and heroic deeds but a testament to the enduring power of community, compassion, and the profound impact one individual can have on the lives of those around them; and

WHEREAS, Robert Shuford, in his spontaneous and heroic act, has so aptly demonstrated his character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his action, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without thought of danger or reward when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Robert Shuford upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Robert Shuford.