

2011-K45

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348, Deer Park, New York upon the occasion of the celebration of its 65th Anniversary on January 22, 2011

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend and support the purposeful cause of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America (VFW), recognizing its long and sustained commitment to the principles of democracy and freedom so revered by this State and nation; and

WHEREAS, In keeping with time-honored traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to recognize the just purpose and good works of Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348, Deer Park, New York, upon the occasion of its 65th Anniversary, to be celebrated with a gala 65th Anniversary Dinner Dance to be held at the Post on Saturday, January 22, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1899 by veterans of the Spanish American War, returning first from Cuba and later from the Philippines, the Veterans of Foreign Wars has, for more than 100 years, been dedicated to serving America's veterans and their families; to preserving freedom, democracy, and the American way of life; and to maintaining a strong national defense; and

WHEREAS, More than six decades ago a small group of veterans gathered and decided to organize a Deer Park Post of the VFW; on January 26, 1946 Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 was chartered by the national organization and a few weeks later, on February 11, 1946, a companion organization, the Deer Park Veterans' Association, Inc. was incorporated to acquire and maintain a home for the Post; and

WHEREAS, Shortly thereafter the Association purchased the former Beck's Tavern on Long Island Avenue which, though the building has undergone several expansions and renovations, it continues to be the

home of Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 and the focal point of many Deer Park and Suffolk County activities; and

WHEREAS, On March 6, 1992 an early morning fire caused severe damage to the hall; thanks to the quick response and outstanding containment efforts of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department total destruction was averted and, on January 23, 1993, the building was rededicated; and

WHEREAS, Over the years the Post has hosted the community's annual Dahlia Ball; many Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department Installation Dinners, Boy Scout Meetings, Little League Registrations and Awards Dinners; more weddings, christenings, anniversary and birthday parties than can be counted and, of course, the Post's own famous St. Patrick's Day, New Years Eve and Anniversary Dances; and

WHEREAS, In addition, during the area's building boom of the late 1950's and early 1960's, when Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church could no longer accommodate its growing numbers, Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 welcomed its parishioners and made its hall available for Sunday Masses; and

WHEREAS, Post 5348 and its members have always been active in many veterans' and community affairs; the Post has organized and led the community's Memorial Day Parade since 1946 and, in conjunction with that important remembrance, its members also conduct their annual Buddy Poppy Drive to assist area veterans in need and place an American flag on each Pinelawn National Cemetery grave; and

WHEREAS, Edward K. Peisker Post members, in addition, visit the Veterans Administration Hospital in Northport every month, arrange annual Halloween and Christmas parties at the hospital and annually visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, They also sponsor youth sports, participate in the community's various parades and tree lighting ceremonies as well as the Veterans' Outreach food drives and the United States Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program; and

WHEREAS, Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 is most proud to have, or have had, members who have served in every branch of the United States Armed Forces and in each of our nation's conflicts from the Spanish-American War to, and beyond, Desert Storm; and

WHEREAS, Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 has faithfully served the Deer Park community and its veterans over the past 65 years, dedicating its purpose to the preservation of the values and principles of this great republic; and

WHEREAS, The 65th Anniversary of the founding of Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 is a time to pause and reflect on the events it conducts in reverent tribute to the men and women who served their country in defense of its ideals of democracy and freedom, on the many contributions rendered to community organizations and educational programs, and on its continuing efforts to serve veterans and the Deer Park community; and

WHEREAS, Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 is a noble post, accomplishing its mission and performing its good deeds in a spirit of comradeship true to the highest traditions of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, Mindful of its proud and honored history, Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 may celebrate with just pride and true honor, its 65th Anniversary of service to its community and the needs and causes of veterans across New York State and the nation; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the devoted leadership of Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348's Post Commanders, past and present, and the absolute commitment of its many proud members, noting the role played by this exceptional organization and recognizing the significance of the contributions and sacrifices of its membership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348 upon the occasion of the celebration of its 65th Anniversary on January 22, 2011, fully confident that the quality and character of life in the Empire State remains rich-

ly endowed and resolutely defended through such organizations of just cause and good purpose; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Edward K. Peisker VFW Post 5348, Deer Park, New York.