

2011-K297

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending United States Army Sergeant James T. Hackemer of Gowanda, New York, for his courageous actions during Operation Enduring Freedom

WHEREAS, The courage and bravery of our military personnel since the United States Armed Forces commenced Operation Enduring Freedom will ensure our continued role as a Nation which embodies the ideals of democracy, and as a defender of liberty for people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York who have served so valiantly and honorably during Operation Enduring Freedom deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend United States Army Sergeant James T. Hackemer of Gowanda, New York, for his courageous actions during Operation Enduring Freedom, to be celebrated with a welcome home party on Sunday, April 3, 2011, at the Gowanda American Legion Post No. 409, in Gowanda, New York; and

WHEREAS, A Purple Heart and Bronze Star Award recipient, Sergeant James T. Hackemer is coming home to New York from cognitive rehabilitation in both Richmond, Virginia, and Walter Reed Army Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, A 2000 graduate of Gowanda High School, Sergeant James Hackemer enlisted in the United States Army before graduation; he served two tours of duty in Iraq and also served in Kosovo; he served as a member of the 230th Military Police Company; and

WHEREAS, In March of 2008, Sergeant James Hackemer was wounded while on patrol towards Baghdad, along with two other soldiers, when a roadside bomb detonated beside his armored vehicle; and

WHEREAS, Despite having the loss of his legs, suffering severe trauma,

and going through rehabilitation for the past three years, Sergeant James Hackemer's true and strong resilience shows he has much to live for; and

WHEREAS, With Sergeant James T. Hackemer throughout have been his daughters, Kaelynn and Addison, as well as his parents, Nancy and John Hackemer, along with his siblings, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his many achievements; and

WHEREAS, The banner of freedom will always wave over our beloved New York and all of America, the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, The freedoms and security we cherish as Americans come at a very high price for those serving in the military in times of conflict; it is fitting and proper that we who are the beneficiaries of those who risk their lives, leaving their families behind, express our appreciation and eternal gratitude for their sacrifices and courageous acts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend United States Army Sergeant James T. Hackemer of Gowanda, New York, for his courageous actions during Operation Enduring Freedom; and he it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sergeant James T. Hackemer.