

## 2011-J4591

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 80th Anniversary of Temple Hill Day on May 28, 2012

WHEREAS, On May 28, 1932, 138 World War I veterans were conferred their Purple Hearts at Temple Hill, in New Windsor, New York; Temple Hill was the site of the New Windsor Cantonment, which was the final encampment of the Continental Army in the winter of 1782-1783; and

WHEREAS, 80 years later, on May 28, 2012, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site will commemorate this occasion by celebrating the 80th Anniversary of Temple Hill Day; and

WHEREAS, The Purple Heart Medal is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use, and is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the United States military who have been killed or wounded in action; and

WHEREAS, On August 7, 1782, during the American Revolution, General George Washington issued an order establishing the Badge of Military Merit to honor merit, particularly among the enlisted soldiers; consisting of a heart made of purple cloth, the Badge of Military Merit was distinctive because it was open only to enlisted men; and

WHEREAS, Although not continued after the American Revolution, the Badge of Military Merit was later renamed the Purple Heart and reinstated by the United States War Department, now the Department of Defense, on February 22, 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth; and

WHEREAS, From General George Washington to General David Petraeus, our nation's military leaders have awarded the Purple Heart in the name of the President to honor almost two million Americans who have been killed or wounded in action; and

WHEREAS, As Americans, it is our responsibility to ensure that our history is documented and reverence is given to our war heroes; and  
WHEREAS, The freedoms and security we cherish as Americans come at a very high price for those serving in the military; it is fitting and proper that we, who are the beneficiaries of the courage 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 commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Temple Hill Day on May 28, 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site.