

## 2015-J381

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Christopher Westbrook 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 incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions of the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Christopher Westbrook 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 a resolution in 2014 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, Christopher Westbrook's name has become synonymous with growth in the Clifton-Fine Region; and

WHEREAS, A 1973 graduate of the Ranger School, Christopher Westbrook returned to his alma mater in 1989, to serve as an instructor in its forest technology program; he became an integral component to the surveying concentration which lead to a profound increase in enrollment at the school; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Westbrook was named Director of the Ranger School in 1995, a position he held until his retirement in June of 2013, making

him the second-longest tenured Director in the school's history; and  
WHEREAS, During his 18 years in this esteemed position, Christopher Westbrook successfully installed two new programs, oversaw a multi-million dollar capital project, and generated a boost in endowment; and  
WHEREAS, Christopher Westbrook was instrumental in the founding of the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corp. in 1998, an organization developed to help improve the conditions of his struggling community; the non-profit has been responsible for vast improvements in housing and the necessary expansion of infrastructure; and  
WHEREAS, In addition, he raised substantial funds to keep Clifton-Fine Hospital in operation; and  
WHEREAS, With his expertise in Adirondack issues, Christopher Westbrook, along with his wife and brother, opened a consulting business, ADK Compliance; the group helps developers, both public and private, comply with the myriad requirements within the park including environmental concerns; and  
WHEREAS, The proud recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Christopher Westbrook received the 1996 Chancellor Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the 2004 for Excellence in Faculty Service Award; and  
WHEREAS, Christopher Westbrook holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Montana, as well as a master's degree from West Virginia University; and  
WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Susan, and their two children, Timothy and Maria, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and  
WHEREAS, Christopher Westbrook continues to live his life with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for human values and ideals; and  
  
WHEREAS, Individuals such as Christopher Westbrook, devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth, are deserving of the highest praise and recogni-

tion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Christopher Westbrook 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 Christopher Westbrook.