

2015-J1731

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Patrick F. Buckley posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Rensselaer County at its Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony on May 11, 2015

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Patrick F. Buckley posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Rensselaer County at its Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony on May 11, 2015; and

WHEREAS, The son of Irish immigrants, Patrick F. Buckley was born on March 12, 1930, in Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, Having a lifetime love for sports and adventure, Patrick F. Buckley excelled in basketball and baseball, and received a basketball scholarship to St. Bonaventure University; and

WHEREAS, After completing his freshman year, Patrick F. Buckley proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army during the Korean War; he served as a combat infantryman with the Second Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, During his military service, Patrick F. Buckley was a member of a unique two hundred man company, consisting of one hundred Americans and one hundred South Korean soldiers; rising through the ranks, he held the esteemed rank of Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Patrick F. Buckley was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his exceptional military service including the Combat Infantryman's Badge, two Bronze Stars for bravery in a combat zone and meritorious service, and the Republic of Korea Commendation Medal; and

WHEREAS, Upon completing his military service, Patrick F. Buckley studied at the State University of New York at New Paltz where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education; furthering his education, he earned his Master's degree in School Administration at the State University of New York at Albany; and

WHEREAS, After four years as an Elementary School Teacher in the South Colonie School District, Patrick F. Buckley received a teaching position with the Department of Defense school system in Europe, where he taught for six years in France; and

WHEREAS, In 1967, Patrick F. Buckley accepted an Elementary Administration position in Heidelberg, Germany; for 29 years, he was an Elementary School Principal in various American Defense Department Schools in Germany; and

WHEREAS, During his time in Germany, Patrick F. Buckley completed the BOLD program in Berchtesgaden; an organizer and strong supporter of outdoor education programs for fifth and sixth grade students, he organized and participated in ski/school weeks, backpacking trips, and youth hostel trips to various areas of Germany and Austria; and

WHEREAS, After 35 years of dedicated service with the Department of Defense, Patrick F. Buckley retired in 1996; he and his wife, Inge, relocated to Boulder, Colorado, where together, they enjoyed hiking; and

WHEREAS, Active in his community, Patrick F. Buckley was a member of the Boulder Seniors on Bikes, AARP, and NARFE; he enjoyed mountaineering

and biking extensively in France, Germany, and Austria, and downhill skiing; and

WHEREAS, Patrick F. Buckley died on January 28, 2015; predeceased by his brother, Martin, Patrick F. Buckley is survived by his wife of 47

years, Inge, and their son, Christopher; his grandchildren, Aidan and Lily; nieces, Theresa and Kathy; and his nephew, Michael; as well as numerous cousins; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Patrick F. Buckley demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore, the highest respect of their State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Patrick F. Buckley posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Rensselaer County at its Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony on May 11, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Patrick F. Buckley.