

## 2015-J2146

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring John Barwinczok posthumously for his steadfast dedication and service to the veterans of his community on May 25, 2015

WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces, who served so faithfully and courageously in wars in which our Nation's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace during peacetime, deserve the highest commendation of this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, The dedication and sacrifices of our military personnel ensure our continued role as a Nation which embodies the ideals of democracy, and is a defender of liberty for peoples throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor John Barwinczok posthumously for his steadfast dedication and service to the veterans of his community, to be celebrated on Monday, May 25, 2015; and

WHEREAS, John Barwinczok's distinguished five year career in the United States Navy included his membership in the Under Water Demolition Team 2, the precursor to the Navy Seals; he also served as Post Master for the sixth fleet in Europe, as well as one year on a destroyer; and

WHEREAS, Just prior to his release, John Barwinczok and his fellow servicemen received greetings from President Harry S. Truman, canceling all discharges due to the Korean War and thus extending his service for another year; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his military service, John Barwinczok worked at General Electric (GE) as a test technician; after a short time, he left GE to work for the Department of Defense, to complete his high school education, and to enroll in college; and

WHEREAS, During his illustrious 35 year career with the Federal Government, John Barwinczok served in numerous capacities from Inspector

to Quality Manager for the Syracuse and New York areas; he retired in 1987, but his hard work ethic led to the formation of his own company, JB Quality Consulting, which he successfully ran for nearly 15 years; and

WHEREAS, A tireless advocate for his fellow veterans, John Barwinczok was the founder of the Korean War Veterans Association Chapter in Cayuga County where, under his able leadership, membership grew from 12 to 82 people in just two years; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the Chapter raised significant funds for a Korean War monument to honor Cayuga County veterans of the Korean War; the monument was dedicated on July 30, 2006, and is part of the Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Auburn, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, John Barwinczok was recognized during a dedication ceremony for his instrumental role in the establishment of Veterans Memorial Park; he headed the committee and led the campaign to build the park located on Genesee Street; and

WHEREAS, A steel arch spans the entrance to Veterans Memorial Park which consists of granite benches, offering visitors a place to pause, sit and reflect on the service veterans have given to the county and the nation; the park includes memorials to past conflicts, from the Revolutionary War through to the current military deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

WHEREAS, In addition, a walkway built of paving stones, many engraved with the names of loved ones, leads from the entrance down a gentle slope to a raised platform area, designed as the focal point for ceremonies honoring veterans in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Memorial Park, where John Barwinczok led with such talent, zeal and joy is a fitting tribute to a life well-lived and a

life worth remembering, a lasting memorial to local veterans and to an individual who gave honor and dignity to all those who have served our great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Individuals such as John Barwinczok, 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 recognition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is very pleased to have this opportunity to express its gratitude to the men and women of the United States Armed Forces for their tremendous sacrifices made for our Nation and for the benefit of all Americans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor John Barwinczok posthumously for his steadfast dedication and service to the veterans of his community on May 25, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of John Barwinczok.