

## 2015-J2449

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard Patrick Whalen posthumously 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 to the quality of life therein; and

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 from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard Patrick Whalen posthumously 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, to be presented at this year's July Rensselaer County Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by resolution 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, Moreover, for his courageous and dedicated service to his country, Richard Patrick Whalen will be recognized at the July of 2015 Rensselaer County Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, A member of the 320th Field Maintenance Squadron, Richard Patrick Whalen was awarded the Air Force Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon SO G-48, 305th Air Refueling Squadron, and an Air Force Good Conduct Medal SO G-47, 320th Bombardment Wing; and

WHEREAS, Richard Patrick Whalen was employed at Zak Incorporated, Troy, New York, and retired from Flomatic Valve Company, North Hoosick,

New York; and

WHEREAS, At the time of his death, Richard Patrick Whalen served as Judge for the Town of Hoosick, a title he held for many years; in addition, he was the assessor for the Village of Hoosick Falls, New York, a member of the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation Board of Directors, and participated in the Kiwanis Club in Hoosick Falls; and

WHEREAS, Richard Patrick Whalen enjoyed playing golf, and was a member of several organizations including Kiwanis Club, American Legion, and the local VFW; and

WHEREAS, Richard Patrick Whalen served his country with honor and distinction from June 29, 1962 through June 28, 1966, as a member of the United States Air Force; he died in 2015, at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his parents, Patrick and Marie Whalen, and one sister-in-law, Elaine Henry, Richard Patrick Whalen was the loving husband of his wife, Joyce, the devoted father of his son, Kevin, and the beloved brother-in-law of one sister-in-law, Kay (Jack) Powers, and two brothers-in-law, John (Irene) McCarty, and Bill (Dayle) McCarty; and the cherished uncle of eight nieces and nephews, Kelly, Matt, Cindy, Diane, Rosemary, Owen, Taylor, and Travis; as well as the life-long friend of Gail and Don Morin, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Richard Patrick Whalen demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore, the highest respect of his 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 Richard Patrick Whalen posthumously 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 the family of Richard Patrick Whalen.