

2015-J2490

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark 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, 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 Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark 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

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, Born in Albany, New York, Todd J. Clark graduated from Christian Brothers Academy in 1990, before receiving his bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University; he later earned master's degrees from both the Naval Postgraduate School, and the Command and General Staff College; and

WHEREAS, In 1995, Todd J. Clark was commissioned as an Armor/Cavalry Officer following his graduation from the Corps of Cadets; he proudly served in both Kuwait and Bosnia with the 1st Cavalry Division, and as

Troop Commander, he led Lightning Troop, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment in the attack on Iraq; and

WHEREAS, A veteran of several combat tours, this valiant soldier continued to provide outstanding service to his country as an advisor to the Iraqi Special Police Commandoes, and the 10th Mountain Division Staff in Iraq on his second and third deployments; and

WHEREAS, During his fourth combat tour, Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark was assigned as the S3 with one of the 10th Mountain Division's Cavalry Squadrons in Afghanistan; during this time, he sustained injuries from an IED; and

WHEREAS, While recovering, Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark refused a medical discharge offer, and courageously returned to duty at Fort Drum to prepare soldiers for upcoming service in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, On June 8, 2013, Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving as the Senior Adviser to the Afghan National Army; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding military service, Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark was the recipient of numerous awards and honors including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal w/ Bronze Service Star, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark 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 Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark 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 Lieutenant Colonel Todd J. Clark.