

2015-J2715

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard C. Hellenbrecht 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, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those civic-minded community members who dedicate their lives and careers to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard C. Hellenbrecht 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, Richard C. Hellenbrecht began his civic career shortly after moving into his current home in Bellerose, Queens, in 1972; shortly thereafter, he joined the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association (BCCA), serving as Block Captain; he rose through the ranks to hold the title of President of BCCA for approximately 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Richard C. Hellenbrecht then became involved in the Eastern Queens Civic Council, which eventually joined other coalitions to form the Queens Civic Congress (QCC); he held the positions of both Vice President and Executive Vice President in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Following the accidental death of the President of the QCC, Richard C. Hellenbrecht took over the leadership role, and subsequently, was re-elected in 2012 and 2013; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as President of QCC, Richard C. Hellenbrecht

has managed approximately 100 civic associations throughout the borough, and has worked on numerous vital cross-cutting issues affecting the quality of life in Queens; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his position at QCC, Richard C. Hellenbrecht holds several other civic and community positions, including both past Chair and Land Use Chair, Community Board 13Q; Secretary/Treasurer, Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association; Secretary, Joint Bellerose Business District; Director, Flushing Meadows Corona Park Conservancy; and member, Queens Quiet Skies MOU Steering Committee; as well as member, Queens Airport Community Roundtable; and

WHEREAS, Richard C. Hellenbrecht officially retired from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey after 34 years of dedicated service, however, he still controls community relations supporting diversity on major construction projects in New York and Los Angeles, California; and

WHEREAS, When Richard C. Hellenbrecht is not working, he enjoys sailing and is the past President of The American Small Craft Association (TASCA), a not-for-profit sailing school/club which teaches sailing and small boat safety at Meadow Lake in Flushing Meadows Corona Park; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his loving wife of 44 years, the former Mary Ann Inman, their two devoted children, and their three beloved grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richard C. Hellenbrecht 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 Richard C. Hellenbrecht.