

2015-J3058

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Joseph Edward Vigeant II 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 Joseph Edward Vigeant II 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 on September 7, 1926 in Hudson, New York, Joseph Edward Vigeant II was the son of the late Clarence H. Vigeant and Marie O'Grady McDermott, and the stepson of the late Leo J. McDermott; he was educated in Troy and lived in Wynantskill for many years; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Edward Vigeant II was a World War II veteran of the United States Naval Corps, surviving an aircraft ditching in the North Atlantic and several days in a life raft; after coming ashore in Ireland, he was subsequently stationed at various locations in both the

European and Pacific Theaters and China; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of the war, Joseph Edward Vigeant II honorably served in the Naval Reserves for 40 years, retiring in 1986; and

WHEREAS, In 1947, Joseph Edward Vigeant II founded the Troy Neon Sign Co., and was President of the company until his retirement in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Edward Vigeant II married the former Dorothy Aspland on November 27, 1949, at St. Patrick's Church in Troy, New York, and together they raised four children; and

WHEREAS, Active within the community, Joseph Edward Vigeant II was a member of the Sea Squatters Club, the Fleet Reserves of Bradenton, the American Ex-POWs of Bradenton, Troy Elks Lodge, Troy Ancient Order of Hibernians, Perida Homeowners Association of Bradenton, the Flying Knights, Tri-County Banjo Band, and American Legion Post 1989; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he was a life member of the Emerald Athletic Club, a member of the Troy Boys Club Hall of Fame and a member of the First Reformed Church of Wynantskill; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Edward Vigeant II died on Thursday, April 30, 1992, at the age of 65; he is survived by his wife, Dorothy; two daughters, Babette and Judith; two sons, Joseph Edward III and William; nine grandchildren, Jennifer (Patrick), Allison (Jason), Joseph Edward IV, Amy (Steven), William, Dana, Hailey, Kate and Lauren; and five great-grandchildren, Mikala, Meara, Mason, Avery and Jace; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Joseph Edward Vigeant II displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Joseph Edward Vigeant II demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore the highest respect of his State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserved 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 Joseph Edward Vigeant II posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as a 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 Joseph Edward Vigeant II.