

## 2015-J3063

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring James A. Smith, Jr. 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 James A. Smith, Jr. 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 celebrated at the Saratoga County Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony in September of 2015; 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, James A. Smith, Jr. was born on April 5, 1921, in Wallington, New Jersey; he lived in Passaic during his early years, and then moved with his family to Greenfield Center where he resided for the remainder of his life; and

WHEREAS, On August 16, 1942, James A. Smith, Jr. entered into the United States Marine Corps; this valiant man was discharged on October 16, 1945, with the rank of Corporal; and

WHEREAS, After his military service, James A. Smith, Jr. worked at the

International Paper Company for more than 37 years of dedicated service before retiring in 1983; and

WHEREAS, He was a lifelong member and former Captain of the Greenfield Fire House No. 1, and a member of the SPA Marine Corps League Detachment No. 641; he was also a 3rd degree member of the Saratoga Council 246 Knights of Columbus, a Life Member of Saratoga Assembly 745 4th degree and served many years with their color corps; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, James A. Smith, Jr. served on the Parish Council at St. Joseph's Church as well as the Planning Board in Greenfield Center; in his spare time, he was part of a three person band known as the Frontiersmen where he enjoyed playing his guitar; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, James A. Smith, Jr. 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 James A. Smith, Jr. 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 James A. Smith, Jr.