

2015-J3186

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Samantha M. Curtis upon the occasion of her 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 all of us; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Samantha M. Curtis upon the occasion of her 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, Samantha M. Curtis, affectionately known as Sami, is a 17 year old senior at Canton High School, Canton, New York, who was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor during the summer of 2015; even though this remarkable young woman is courageously battling her own cancer, she finds time and energy to help raise funds for the St. Lawrence County Cancer Fund; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of two, Sami M. Curtis tragically lost her mother to breast cancer; to honor her mother's legacy, at the age of 12, she began to serve as a board member for the St. Lawrence County Cancer

Fund in 2012; and

WHEREAS, For the last 15 years, Sami M. Curtis and her family have participated in the Edward I. Moses Walk/Run For Life, a fundraiser held annually on the last Sunday in April at St. Lawrence University; this stellar event is comprised of individuals and teams who raise money for the fight against cancer with 100% of the proceeds remaining within St. Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, Sami M. Curtis is also credited with holding her own fundraising event, "Help Sami Kick Cancer", with all of the proceeds benefitting the St. Lawrence County Cancer Fund; thanks to her hard work and dedication, the event had raised more than \$62,000 by November of 2015; and

WHEREAS, Individuals such as Samantha M. Curtis, devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth, are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Samantha M. Curtis upon the occasion of her 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 Samantha M. Curtis.