

2015-J4439

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Joseph Anthony Laughney, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Anthony Laughney of Endicott, New York, died on October 6, 2015, at the age of 79; and

WHEREAS, Joseph "Joe" Laughney bravely served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps from 1953-1956, and was a Korean War veteran; and

WHEREAS, He proudly acknowledged the service of veterans in his community, who were especially close to his heart; he worked to install plaques for local recipients of the Medal of Honor at the Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena in Broome County, where he served on the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Laughney was also a devoted member of the John W. Thurston Detachment of the Marine Corps League, the Korean War Veterans of the Southern Tier, and the American Legion; he frequently volunteered with the Broome County Veterans Memorial Association and attended hundreds of veterans' funerals as a member of the Honor Guard; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Laughney distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, From 1995 until 2006, Joseph A. Laughney was the Building Superintendent for the New York State Office of General Services; in this capacity, he was instrumental in getting the Building's health and safety systems fully working following its reopening; renovating the

parking areas; and making the Building more accessible through events such as Pops on the Plaza and First Night, and through creating the Warren M. Anderson Community Room; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Laughney was also involved in opening the State-leased Glendale Campus which contained hundreds of State workers, and led his OGS engineering team to countless sites throughout New York to handle sound and video services for events of then Governor George Pataki; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Laughney's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Laughney enjoyed serving his community as a member, vice chair and chair of numerous committees, as well as serving as a delegate at several conventions; furthermore, he was a staffer for past Assemblyman Richard H. Miller, the Deputy Commissioner of the Broome County Board of Elections, and the Superintendent of the Binghamton State Office Building; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his father, John; mother, Margaret; brother, Jack; and sisters, Aileen and Maureen, Joseph A. Laughney is survived by his wife, Eleanor (Rusty); his children, Sharon and David Belcher, Joseph and Vickie Laughney, Maureen and William Kovarik, and George Laughney and Andrew Wang; his six grandchildren, Rachel Hagerman, Joseph and Ashley Laughney, Alicia Froment, and Nicole and Cody Kovarik; and his great granddaughter, Abigail Hagerman; and

WHEREAS, An avid storyteller, recounting many past exploits during his lifetime with his friends, children and grandchildren, often taking time to explain something, Joseph A. Laughney will truly be missed; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Joseph A. Laughney leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Joseph Anthony Laughney, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community, and to offer its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Joseph Anthony Laughney.