

## 2015-J5133

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 5th Anniversary of Carry The Load, a national event established in an effort to restore the true meaning of Memorial Day

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 5th Anniversary of Carry The Load, a national event established in an effort to restore the true meaning of Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body wants to recognize those communities throughout the State of New York that strive to take part in American Holidays which honor all veterans and members of America's Armed Forces;

on May 3, 2016, the citizens of the Hamlet of Congers and the Town of Clarkstown will be partaking in an impressive Carry the Load event; and

WHEREAS, The mission of Carry The Load is to restore the true meaning of Memorial Day by remembering and honoring the sacrifices made by America's heroes, namely military, law enforcement officers, firefighters and rescue personnel; and

WHEREAS, These days, there is a disconnect between what Memorial Day means, and how it is observed; because of this disconnect, in 2011, two former Navy Seals set out to raise awareness and resources to better serve fallen heroes, and their families, who have died or were wounded while carrying the load for their fellow Americans; and

WHEREAS, Carry The Load encourages Americans to participate, donate or volunteer in a variety of ways throughout the month of May, and on Memorial Day itself; for those who choose to walk, there is a National Relay held that spans from West Point, New York to Dallas, Texas, over a six-week period; for those who want to volunteer, there is a 20-hour walk, or city-wide Memorial Day event, in several cities across the United States, including a walk held in Clarkstown, New York, led by the Clarkstown Police and The Nam Knights; and

WHEREAS, The following day, Wednesday, May 4th, a group from Congers/Clarkstown will also be walking as part of the East Coast Relay in New York City; this leg of the Relay is a 3.3 mile walk from Grand Central Station to the 9/11 Memorial World Trade Center; participants of this Carry The Load leg will be Veterans, family members, Clarkstown residents, elected officials, Veterans groups, and police and fire departments; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their 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 commemorate the 5th Anniversary of Carry The Load, a national event established in an effort to restore the true meaning of Memorial Day; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Supervisor George Hoehmann, Town of Clarkstown, New York.