

## 2015-J5429

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Irving Tracy Mason 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 Irving Tracy Mason 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 Rensselaer County Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran Ceremony to be celebrated on Monday, May 9, 2016; 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, Irving Tracy Mason was born on November 17, 1931, in Petersburg, New York, to Irving and Annie Goyer Mason; as a young man, he attended Berlin Central schools until the 9th grade, and later worked to help support his family; and

WHEREAS, Irving Tracy Mason enlisted as a member of the United States Army on June 13, 1952, and proudly served his country during the Korean War as a Heavy Machine Mechanic for two years; and

WHEREAS, Upon separating from the military with the esteemed rank of

Corporal, Irving Tracy Mason moved to the Town of Grafton, and worked for 25 years as an Operating Engineer for Troy Sand and Gravel until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, In 1954, Irving Tracy Mason married his wife, Shirley Duval, and together, they were the proud parents of three children, Kathy, Debbie and Tracy, and the loving grandparents of numerous grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, An integral part of his community, Irving Tracy Mason contributed his time as a volunteer with the Grafton Fire Company for 25 years; he also served as an Assistant Road Superintendent for 13 years, and Road Superintendent for three years, as well as a Councilman for two years; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Irving Tracy Mason was an active member of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Grafton VFW Post No. 6340 where he was known for selling poppies every year during its annual fundraiser; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated family man, Irving Tracy Mason was an avid hunter and fisherman who enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Irving Tracy Mason 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 Irving Tracy Mason 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 Irving Tracy Mason.