

## 2015-J5939

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Major Gerard C. Dempster upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of valiant service to the United States Marine Corps

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize those remarkable individuals who honorably and courageously serve their country in order to protect the life and liberty of our citizens, and whose military service, professional lives, and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Major Gerard C. Dempster upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of valiant service to the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Born on March 11, 1971 in Niskayuna, New York, Gerard C. Dempster enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in December of 1990; he completed recruit training in March of 1991 at Parris Island, South Carolina, and was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class before being assigned to the School of Infantry at Camp Geiger, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduation Gerard C. Dempster was assigned to Personnel Administration School at Camp Johnson for instruction as a Unit Diary Clerk, and graduated with honors in July of 1991; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Gerard C. Dempster reported to his first duty assignment with HMLA-367, serving as a Unit Diary Clerk; in October of 1991, he was promoted to Lance Corporal and deployed the following year with HMM-161 (Rein) as part of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable); and

WHEREAS, In April of 1993, Corporal Gerard C. Dempster reported for duty with the First Marine Corps District, Garden City, New York, where he served as the Unit Diary Chief; he provided administrative support to

eight Recruiting Stations in the Northeastern United States; during his tour he was selected as the Marine of the Quarter and Marine of the Year, and promoted to Sergeant in October of 1994; and WHEREAS, Sergeant Gerard C. Dempster attended the Sergeants Course in August of 1995, and graduated with honors; furthermore, in May of 1996 he received his Associates Degree, Cum Laude from Nassau Community College; and

WHEREAS, After reporting to Drill Instructor School at Parris Island in July of 1996, Sergeant Gerard C. Dempster graduated with honors and was assigned to 1st Battalion, Charlie Company; during this time, he was selected as Drill Instructor of the Quarter and was meritoriously promoted to Staff Sergeant in January of 1998; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he served as a Drill Instructor and Senior Drill Instructor for seven platoons and successfully completed his tour in October of 1998; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Gerard C. Dempster was competitively selected for the Meritorious Commissioning Program and reported to Officers Candidate School in January of 2000, graduating in April with honors and receiving his commission; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2001, Second Lieutenant Gerard C. Dempster reported for duty with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, Camp Lejeune, where he served as a Weapons Platoon Commander, Rifle Company Executive Officer and Headquarters and Service Company Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, After being promoted to Captain, Gerard C. Dempster completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Management with honors from the American Military University; he was then hand selected as the Aide-de-Camp for the Commanding General in August of 2005 and served in that capacity until being competitively selected for career level school; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2009 Captain Gerard C. Dempster was ordered to the Light Armored Vehicle Leaders Course, in Camp Pendleton, and upon graduating with honors, was assigned to 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance

Battalion, as the Delta Company Commander; he participated in Operation ENDURING FREEDOM in Khan Neshin, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, In August of 2013, Major Gerard C. Dempster was hand selected as a Commandant of the Marine Corps National Fellow for an assignment at General Electric in Boston; during this time he assumed his current duties as a strategic planner at United States Special Operations Command in Tampa, Florida in July of 2014; and

WHEREAS, Major Gerard C. Dempster is a graduate of the Expeditionary Warfare School and Command and Staff College Distance Education Program; he holds an Associate's degree in Political Science, a Bachelor's degree in Management, and a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his distinguished military career, Major Gerard C. Dempster earned the Bronze Star Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with (4) gold stars, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with (2) gold stars, Combat Action Ribbon (1) gold star and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal with (1) bronze star; in addition, he is the recipient of numerous campaign and service awards, and has been the subject of numerous pieces of commendatory correspondence; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who dedicate their lives to military service merit the commendation and applause of all citizens for their commitment to the preservation of American freedom; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Major Gerard C. Dempster upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of valiant service to the United States Marine Corps; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Major Gerard C. Dempster.