

2015-J6135

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford for his distinguished service to the United States Army Garrison West Point, West Point, New York

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford for his distinguished service to the United States Army Garrison West Point, West Point, New York, to be observed at a Change of Command Ceremony on Thursday, July 7, 2016, in the Eisenhower Hall Theatre, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York; and

WHEREAS, A native of Clinton, South Carolina, Joel D. Crawford joined the South Carolina National Guard while still in high school in April of 1986; he attended Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, After graduating as a Light Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic (MOS 63B) in March of 1987, Joel D. Crawford entered the United States Army in March of 1990; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his meritorious military career, Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford was assigned to numerous divisions including the 3rd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery Regiment, Corp Artillery at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; HSC, 2nd Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Bragg; 3rd Battalion, 73rd Armor Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; B Company, 82nd Signal Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; D Company 122nd Signal Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Red Cloud Korea; Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron 17th Cavalry Regiment,

82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; and Delta Aviation Maintenance Company (D-AMC), 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; as well as HSC, 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford is assigned to 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 159th CAB, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Group Support Battalion (GSB) 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Eglin Air Force Base, Florida; and United States Army Garrison West Point, West Point, New York; and

WHEREAS, Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford has served at multiple levels, from a Light Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic to Command Sergeant Major; additionally, he has held the title of Squad Leader, Senior Mechanic, Motor Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, and First Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure in the United States Army, Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford deployed to Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia; Operation Uphold/Maintain Democracy in Haiti; Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom XIV, XVI, and XVIII; and

WHEREAS, Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford graduated from the Airborne School and Jumpmaster School, and successfully completed the Primary Leadership Development Course, the Basic Noncommissioned Officer's Course, the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer's Course, United States Sergeants Major Academy Class No. 59, Master Jumpmaster Course, and the Combat Life Savers Course; and

WHEREAS, For his meritorious service to his country, Command Sergeant Major Crawford was the recipient of numerous awards and decorations including the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal with five oak

leaf clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Award, Superior Unit Award, Army Commendation Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with six oak

leaf clusters, six Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, four Noncommissioned Officer Development Ribbons, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, United Nations Medal (Haiti), NATO Medal (Afghanistan), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), and Master Parachutist Badge, as well as the Mechanic/Drivers Badge; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which individuals, such as Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford have served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who have risked their lives for their beloved Nation; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford has 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 Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford for his distinguished service to the United States Army Garrison West Point, West Point, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Command Sergeant Major Joel D. Crawford.