

2015-J6430

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring New York State Police Trooper Shaun Smith 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, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of those exemplary citizens, who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, and in doing so, help others to avert life-threatening danger; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor New York State Police Trooper Shaun Smith 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

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, A resident of Phoenix, New York, Trooper Shaun Smith is a member of the New York State Police Department, Troop D, Canine Unit; along with his K-9 partner Doyle, he has been instrumental in numerous special operations, including raids that involve weapons and felony drugs; and

WHEREAS, On June 2, 2016, around 6:00 pm, Trooper Shaun Smith, an avid tri-athlete, was off duty and swimming laps at the Northwest Family YMCA in Lysander, when a 12 year-old Baldwinsville boy, who was swimming with a friend, suddenly went into cardiac arrest in the pool; and

WHEREAS, As the boy's friend started to pull him to the surface of the water, Trooper Shaun Smith noticed that the victim's face was blue; he rushed over and immediately assisted in getting the victim out of the pool and onto the pool deck, and yelled for help; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Shaun Smith then began Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) as a lifeguard retrieved an automated external defibrillator (AED) and contacted Onondaga County 911; along with two parents, a registered nurse and a respiratory therapist, the two men continued CPR and applied the AED to the victim; and

WHEREAS, As the Moyer's Corners Fire Department, the Greater Baldwinsville Ambulance Corps, and additional troopers from Lysander arrived on the scene, the boy began to take heavy breaths on his own; subsequently, he was transported to Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse, where he regained consciousness and was listed in stable condition; and

WHEREAS, New York State Police Trooper Shaun Smith, through his spontaneous and heroic actions, demonstrated his character and his compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his actions, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of the State of New York who voluntarily respond when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor New York State Police Trooper Shaun Smith 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 New York State Police Trooper Shaun Smith.