

2015-J6516

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Raymond F. Diamond Sr. 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 Raymond F. Diamond Sr. 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 on Monday, November 14, 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, Born on July 19, 1931, in Troy, New York, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. was the son of Wesley Joseph and Genevieve Warren Looby Diamond; a lifelong resident of Averill Park, New York, he graduated from Averill Park High School; and

WHEREAS, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. enlisted as a member of the United States Marine Corps on January 31, 1951, and proudly served his country during the Korean War conflict until he was honorably discharged on November 2, 1953; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding service, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades including the Korean War Service Medal, National Defense Medal, United Nations Service Medal as well as the Conspicuous Service Cross Medal; and

WHEREAS, Upon his re-entry into civilian life, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. returned to his hometown; he was united in marriage to Margaret "Peg" Campbell at Sacred Heart Church in Troy, New York, on August 7, 1950; and

WHEREAS, The couple settled into married life on Crystal Lake in Averill Park, New York, and started a family which included seven children, two sons, Skip and Lee, and five daughters, JoAnn, Jacqueline, Nancy, Meg and MaryAnn; and

WHEREAS, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. supported his growing family as a Pressman through his employment at Hudson Valley Community College from 2004 to 2009, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Print Shop from 1954 to 1955 and 1986 to 2004, Whitehurst Press from 1983 to 1986, Clarity Publishing from 1965 to 1983, and Walter Snyder Printing from 1958 to 1965; and

WHEREAS, A vital part of his community, this remarkable man was a lifetime member of the Sullivan Jones Veterans of Foreign War Post, Sergeant Walter Adams American Legion Post, where he held the position of Sergeant at Arms, Stephentown Rod and Gun Club, member and chaplain of the Marine Corps League Troy Detachment as well as a communicant of St. Henry's Church; and

WHEREAS, Raymond F. Diamond Sr.'s favorite pastimes included spending time with his family, working outside around the home, ice fishing, washing his car, reading the paper and watching Boston Red Sox games and Pittsburgh Pirates games ; and

WHEREAS, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. died on Thursday, August 6, 2009 at the age of 78, leaving behind his wife of 60 years; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his brothers, Paul and Jack and Jeannette

Gentry, he is survived by his wife, Margaret; his five devoted children, Joann (George) Jeffs, Raymond "Skip", Wesley "Lee" (Bonny), Jacqueline (Mike) Carley, Nancy (Dave) Minnich, Margaret "Meg" (the late Rob) Maier and MaryAnn (Mike); his 13 grandchildren, James, Michael, Jessica, Matthew, Mark, Justine, Patrick, Jeremie, Robert, Stephanie, Jeannette, Lucas and Samantha; his three great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews; 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 his patriotism both at home and abroad, Raymond F. Diamond Sr. 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 Raymond F. Diamond Sr. 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 Raymond F. Diamond Sr.