

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Team Rubicon for their dedication to volunteerism and helping others in emergency situations and disasters

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to call attention to the dedicated efforts of those individuals from across the State of New York who volunteer their time and energies in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Team Rubicon for their dedication to volunteerism and helping others in emergency situations and disasters; and

WHEREAS, Team Rubicon is an organization of military veterans who work with first responders around the world in response to emergency situations and disasters; and

WHEREAS, After a tornado tore through the areas of Duanesburg and Delanson on May 22, 2014, the damage left behind to Nicole Burian's Delanson home was overwhelming; members of Team Rubicon joined other volunteers to sort debris at her home to speed up the work and cut down on cost; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Team Rubicon provided help to Nicole Burian's neighbor, Steve Guernsey, whose barn was damaged, to keep his animals safe from the devastation; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Team Rubicon went to Duanesburg to help a family there whose home was destroyed; and

WHEREAS, Through Team Rubicon, hundreds of United States military veterans, many returning home after ten years of war, find a renewed sense of purpose for their skills and experiences; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception in January of 2010, Team Rubicon has impacted thousands of lives in countries around the world, and in the United States; the volunteers reach victims outside the scope of where traditional aid organizations venture, victims on the fringe; and

WHEREAS, Team Rubicon sets itself apart in the nonprofit world, pioneering a new paradigm in disaster response while redefining the meaning of veteran reintegration into society; and

WHEREAS, Team Rubicon established the concept of Veteran-Focused Disaster Response; natural disasters present many of the same problems which confront troops in Iraq and Afghanistan including: unstable populations, limited resources, horrific sights, sounds, and smells; the skills cultivated on those same battlefields, emerging medicine, risk assessment, and mitigation, teamwork and decisive leadership, are vital in disaster zones; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism promotes family and community solidarity; most importantly, people who volunteer their time in civic and charitable endeavors inspire others to the call of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain altruistic individuals and organizations it wishes to acknowledge for their philanthropic contributions to our society which enhance the basic humanity among us all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Team Rubicon for their dedication to volunteerism and helping

others in emergency situations and disasters; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Team Rubicon.