

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Debra Lucchese upon the occasion of receiving the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's 2014 Medal of Merit

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, remaining calm under pressure, to come to the assistance of persons in peril; and

WHEREAS, The quality and sanctity of human life are cherished values, worthy of safeguarding; this Legislative Body is proud to honor an individual who would serve to protect these ideals; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Debra Lucchese upon the occasion of receiving the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's 2014 Medal of Merit, to be celebrated on Thursday, June 12, 2014, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, On June 17, 2013, Debra Lucchese, a Keyboard Specialist 2 at Shawangunk Correctional Facility was at her home in Newburgh, New York, when she observed smoke and flames coming from her elderly neighbor's back deck; and

WHEREAS, Without hesitation, Debra Lucchese pushed in her neighbor's door, ran up the stairs, and calmly led the woman safely out of the house; her actions, without regard to her own safety, can only be described as heroic; and

WHEREAS, Debra Lucchese's immediate response and spontaneous actions should be meritoriously praised; equally commendable was her ability to remain calm under pressure, while risking her own life to perform a truly valiant deed; and

WHEREAS, Through her spontaneous and heroic actions, Debra Lucchese demonstrated her character and her compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of her actions, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without the thought of danger or reward when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Debra Lucchese upon the occasion of receiving the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's 2014 Medal of Merit; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Debra Lucchese.