

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Joseph Burgess posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on February 1, 2016

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; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Joseph Burgess posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on Monday, February 1, 2016, at the Joseph E. Zaloga Post, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, In June of 1993, a committee was formed by the Albany County Veterans Bureau known as the Albany County Honor-A-Veteran Committee to honor deceased Albany County Veterans who have served their country in time of conflict; the Honor-A-Veteran Program takes place monthly on the first Monday of each month; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous and dedicated service to his country, Joseph Burgess will be recognized at this year's February Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Burgess, who died on December 5, 2014, at the age of 64, served his country with honor and distinction from 1968-1972, as a member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, A Private First Class in the 101st Airborne Unit, Joseph Burgess served in the Vietnam War as a Paratrooper and a Radio Operator; for his valiant service, he was awarded the Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, Combat Infantry Badge, and a Parachute Badge; and

WHEREAS, Upon his discharge, Joseph Burgess was employed at Green Tech High Charter School; he then went on to work for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, holding the position of Capital District Campership Diversity Program Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Burgess enjoyed working with kids; he volunteered at the Albany Boys and Girls Club and founded the Nature Network and Youth Ed-Venture; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout was his wife, Cherry Burgess, who felt privileged to be a part of his life and rejoiced in his achievements; 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 their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their 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 Joseph Burgess posthumously upon the occasion of his designation

for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on February 1, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Cherry Burgess.