

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Sergeant Joseph Merville upon the occasion of receiving a medal for his extraordinary service from the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision

WHEREAS, The quality and sanctity of community life are cherished values that are worthy of safeguarding, and this Legislative Body is hereby moved to honor those exemplary public servants who devote their lives to preserving and protecting such values; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor and recognize Sergeant Joseph Merville of Auburn, New York, upon the occasion of receiving a medal for his extraordinary service from the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision; an award ceremony will be held on June 8, 2016, in Albany; and

WHEREAS, On October 31, 2015, Sergeant Joseph Merville was conducting his regular duties at the Auburn Correctional Facility, when he was confronted with a dangerous situation; and

WHEREAS, An electrical malfunction had caused an explosion inside an electrical vault and the Auburn Correctional Facility suddenly lost power; and

WHEREAS, Upon investigating the power loss of the underground electrical vault, Sergeant Joseph Merville observed smoke billowing from a dislodged 300-pound manhole cover of the vault and heard an explosion; and

WHEREAS, As Sergeant Joseph Merville approached the vault, he saw flames and smoke so he immediately grabbed a dry chemical fire extinguisher and was able to extinguish the electrical fire; and

WHEREAS, The quick thinking and decisive actions of Sergeant Joseph Merville not only saved New York State potentially thousands of dollars in damage and repair costs, but allowed the Auburn Correctional Facility to maintain its security; and

WHEREAS, In keeping with the finest traditions of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, Sergeant Joseph Merville has distinguished himself by his dedication and his exemplary service to protect the citizens of the Central New York community; and

WHEREAS, The courageous and dedicated efforts of public servants, such as Sergeant Joseph Merville, who devote themselves to protecting the lives of others, are worthy of the praise and recognition of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and recognize Sergeant Joseph Merville upon the occasion of receiving a medal for his extraordinary service from the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sergeant Joseph Merville.