

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Wardell Dale posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on February 6, 2017

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 peace-time, 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 Wardell Dale posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on Monday, February 6, 2017 at the Joseph E. Zaloga Post, in 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 on the first Monday of each month; and

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

WHEREAS, Wardell Dale, who died who died on June 15, 2016, at the age of 79, served his country with honor and distinction from September 15, 1954 to September 13, 1957, as a member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, A Private First Class in the Airborne Unit, Wardell Dale served in the Korean War as a Medic; for his valiant service, he was awarded the Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Ribbon and Korean Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, Upon separating from the military with the esteemed rank of Corporal, Wardell Dale was one of the first three African-American firefighters in the city of Albany; he returned to college to get a degree in fire science and went on to become the first black Fire Investigator in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his three daughters, Stephanie Dale, Rosa Perry and Cynthia Pickens, all of whom felt privileged to have been a part of his life and rejoice in his

accomplishments; 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 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 services and for their dedication to their communities, their State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Wardell Dale posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on February 6, 2017; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Wardell Dale.