

BY: Senator AMEDORE

COMMENDING Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

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 from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate, to be presented at the Schenectady County Honor A Deceased Veteran Ceremony on Saturday, December 8, 2018, at St. Luke's Pastoral Center, Schenectady, New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Born on December 11, 1918, to John and Ida (Pinter) Boyd, in Norfolk, Virginia, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. was raised in Baltimore, Maryland, where he attended Morgan State University from 1940 to 1942; and

WHEREAS, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. valiantly served his country as a member of the United States Army from July 31, 1942, until November 5, 1945, achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous service during World War II, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. was awarded the European Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, Good Conduct Medal and the American Theater Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Schenectady, New York, for more than 70 years, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. began his illustrious career with General Electric Company in 1947, retiring in 1980 as a Foreman/Supervisor in the Large Steam Turbine Division; and

WHEREAS, Active in his community, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. was a Deacon at the First Baptist Church of Schenectady, as well as co-Founder and President of both the NAACP Schenectady Chapter and Baptist Retirement Center; and

WHEREAS, This extraordinary man also served on the Board of Directors for the Schenectady County Action Committee (SCAP) and as a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 357; and

WHEREAS, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. was awarded the 1978 Gerald Phillippe

Public Service Award by the General Electric Company and was recognized as a Schenectady Patroon by Schenectady Mayor Brian Stratton in November of 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. is survived by his loving wife, Catherine Jean (Cox) Boyd; his son, Ralph F. Boyd, Jr. (Angela); and five grandchildren; 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 his patriotism both at home and abroad, Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore, the highest respect of his 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 commend Ralph F. Boyd, Sr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Ralph F. Boyd, Sr.