

BY: Senator GAUGHRAN

COMMENDING Donna Monteleone upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of exemplary citizens who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, and in doing so, help others to avert life-threatening danger; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Donna Monteleone upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; 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, On Thursday, May 20, 2021, Ocean Avenue Elementary School teacher aide Donna Monteleone was in the classroom when she noticed a boy who had been sitting down, suddenly stand up, and heard a fellow staff member ask the boy what was wrong; and

WHEREAS, Realizing the first-grader could not breathe, Donna Monteleone watched her co-worker attempt to perform the Heimlich maneuver on the boy; fortunately, Donna routinely trains at the local firehouse in the use of the AED, CPR and the Heimlich maneuver and ran over to begin abdominal thrusts; and

WHEREAS, After the boy began to throw up his lunch, Donna Monteleone noticed there was still something in his throat, and continued to perform the Heimlich as she moved him out of the classroom and away from the view of the other children; and

WHEREAS, As Donna Monteleone led him out of the room, she saw somebody and screamed to go get the nurse; she did a few more thrusts and sure enough, on the last thrust the large piece of food popped out; and

WHEREAS, The boy then took a big breath and dropped all of his weight into Donna Monteleone's arms; as she attempted to carry him down the hallway, the nurse and first responders arrived and took over his medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, Due to Donna Monteleone's quick thinking and medical training, the young boy made a full recovery; and

WHEREAS, Praised for her swift actions, Donna Monteleone demonstrated her true character and genuine compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of her actions, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of the State of New York who voluntarily respond when others are in need; and

WHEREAS, Justly recognized as a hero, Donna Monteleone richly merits the admiration of this Legislative Body and her community for his consummate courage and heroic actions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Donna Monteleone upon the occasion of her 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 Donna Monteleone.