

BY: Senator PALUMBO

COMMENDING Lisa Schoenstein 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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord of its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Lisa Schoenstein 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, After working an entire day, Billy Gremler, known as Billy of Billy's By the Bay, and his fiance, Lisa Schoenstein, jumped on their boat to do some fishing and wound up in a terrible boat explosion that first split the boat in two before sinking it; and

WHEREAS, The powerful explosion landed Billy in the water with severe injuries to his back and head; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Schoenstein was thrown against the bulkhead and landed in the water; she heard the screams of her fiance and swam over to him; and

WHEREAS, Without hesitation, Lisa Schoenstein cradled Billy's head to keep it out of the water and swam them both back to the dock ladder; she was assisted by a crew member at Safe Harbor Marina, who had jumped into a dinghy to help; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Schoenstein unselfishly put aside her own injuries, broken clavicle, broken scapula, dislocated shoulder, broken wrist, three fractured ribs, and burns on both her feet and her hands, to save Billy; cognizant of her own injuries and still able to save another is the definition of a true hero; and

WHEREAS, Praised for her swift actions, Lisa Schoenstein demonstrated her sincere 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, Lisa Schoenstein richly merits the admiration of this Legislative Body and her community for her consummate courage and heroic actions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Lisa Schoenstein 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 Lisa Schoenstein.