

Senate Resolution No. 1346

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMENDING Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney 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 Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney 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

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 February 19, 1949, to Donald and Barbara (Dowling) Tanney in Oneida County, New York, John Michael Tanney attended Rome Catholic School where he was a member of the track team and the Champion Players; and

WHEREAS, After graduating, John Michael Tanney enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on July 4, 1967, and proudly served his country as a Lance Corporal with a specialty as a rifleman during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, In April of 1968, Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney was wounded by mortar fire at the siege of Khe Sanh; upon recovery, he courageously returned to duty on the front line; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, this brave soldier made the ultimate sacrifice when he was killed in action on September 23, 1968, at the young age of 19; shortly thereafter, he was laid to rest in St. Peter's Cemetery in Rome, New York, with full military honors; and

WHEREAS, For his meritorious service during the war, Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney, was awarded a Purple Heart, as well as many other awards and accolades, such as: Combat Action Ribbon, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal; 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 abroad, Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney 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 Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney 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 Lance Corporal John Michael Tanney.