

Senate Resolution No. 2887

BY: Senator JORDAN

COMMENDING John Mesick 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 peace-time, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend John Mesick 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 Columbia County Honor a Veteran Ceremony on Monday, August 29, 2022; 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 October 4, 1924, to Juanita (Raught) and Ernest Mesick, John "Jack" Mesick grew up in Ghent, New York; after graduating from high school, he enlisted in the United States Army and proudly served his country in the European Theater of Operations, participating in the Liberation of Europe from D-Day to the signing of the armistice; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous service during World War II, John Mesick was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, most notably, the French Cross of War, signed by General Charles DeGaulle; and

WHEREAS, Upon his discharge, John Mesick returned to Columbia County where he met and married his wife, the former Frances Gustafson; together, they happily raised three children, Chris, Jim and Pati in Chatham, New York; later, John and Frances were the loving grandparents of seven grandchildren, Chase, Grayson, Emmett, Tyler, Ben, Erin, and Emily; and

WHEREAS, John Mesick worked for the Columbia Rensselaer Telephone Company for 45 years, and was actively involved in his community, serving as Mayor, Police Chief, and Fire Chief; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to his fellow veterans, John Mesick was a life member of the Ghent Veterans for Foreign Wars, the American Legion in Chatham, and the Ground Observer Corps; and

WHEREAS, John Mesick died on December 31, 2019, at the age of 95, and was laid to rest at St. James Cemetery in Chatham, New York; 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, John Mesick 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 John Mesick 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 John Mesick.