

Senate Resolution No. 2916

BY: Senator TEDISCO

COMMENDING William E. Helman 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 William E. Helman 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 celebrated at the Saratoga County Honor A Deceased Veteran Ceremony on Tuesday, November 15, 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 August 28, 1923 to Edward and Sara Helman, William E. Helman attended Ballston Spa Schools before entering into the United States Army on December 12, 1942 in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, William E. Helman proudly served his country as a Combat Engineer/Jack Hammer Operator with Company B, 404th Engineer Combat Battalion; he fought in the Italy campaigns including Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, North Apennines and the Po Valley; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous service during World War II, William E. Helman was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Bronze Arrowhead, the Good Conduct Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal; and

WHEREAS, After being honorably discharged on October 23, 1945, William E. Helman married his beloved wife, Rachael, and together they raised their three wonderful children; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Milton, New York, William E. Helman went on to work in the automotive industry and was self-employed as a body and fender mechanic, working out of several local garages; and

WHEREAS, William E. Helman died on February 28, 1978, at the age of 54; 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 risked their lives for their beloved Nation; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, William E. Helman 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 William E. Helman 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 William E. Helman.