

**BY:** Senator KENNEDY

**MOURNING** the tragic and untimely death of New York State Trooper Joseph Gallagher on March 26, 2021

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to convey its grateful appreciation and heartfelt regret in recognition of the loss of a courageous police officer who dedicated his purposeful life and career in faithful service to his family and to the residents of the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** It is with profound sadness that this Legislative Body records the passing of New York State Trooper Joseph Gallagher, 38, who made the ultimate sacrifice on Friday, March 26, 2021, three years after he was struck by a vehicle while faithfully executing his responsibilities, serving with dedication, loyalty and compassion, and who devoted his purposeful life and career to serve and protect; and

**WHEREAS,** New York State Trooper Joseph Gallagher exemplified what it truly means to give of himself in providing vital police services in keeping with the noble mission of the New York State Police; and

**WHEREAS,** Trooper Joseph Gallagher, who was 35 years old at the time of the crash, was hit on an overpass leading to the Long Island Expressway near Brentwood on December 18, 2017, after stopping to assist a disabled motorist; he was setting up emergency flares in the road when he was struck by a distracted driver; and

**WHEREAS,** Originally from South Buffalo, Trooper Joseph Gallagher later lived in West Seneca; he began his illustrious career with the New York State Police in 2014, and was most recently assigned to Troop L, which covers Nassau and Suffolk counties; he was previously assigned to Troop F in downtown New York, and Troop T, which covers the Thruway; and

**WHEREAS,** Prior to joining the New York State Police, this courageous man served as a rescue helicopter pilot for the Coast Guard in Detroit; and

**WHEREAS,** Trooper Joseph Gallagher performed his duties with great honor, integrity and just pride; he was truly an exceptional role model and inspiration to his fellow officers; and

**WHEREAS,** While he was passionate about many things, above all his greatest passion was being a father to his two children, and a husband to his loving wife; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to his wife and two children, Trooper Joseph Gallagher is survived by his parents, one sister, and his brothers; and

**WHEREAS,** Trooper Joseph Gallagher's infinite selflessness and benevolence will shine on through his family's vivid and happy memories; his insight and strength will forever serve as a beacon of love, light

and hope to the countless lives he touched; and

**WHEREAS,** Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Trooper Joseph Gallagher leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing man; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the tragic and untimely death of New York State Trooper Joseph Gallagher, noting the significance of his contributions on behalf of the citizens of this noble Empire State, and expressing its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of New York State Trooper Joseph Gallagher.