

Assembly Resolution No. 424

BY: M. of A. Barrett

COMMENDING the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America on its 125th Anniversary, and paying tribute to its members for their outstanding contributions to our Nation

WHEREAS, Members of our Armed Forces 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 the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America and to pay tribute to its members for their outstanding contributions to our Nation; and

WHEREAS, The Jewish War Veterans was founded March 15, 1896, in New York City as the Hebrew Union Veterans Association (HUVA) by Civil War veterans distressed by the commonly held belief that Jews avoided military service; and

WHEREAS, The Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America is the oldest veteran's organization in the country; in 1958 it was chartered by Congress; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, this esteemed veteran's organization has been a force against bigotry in America, while working to support the Jewish community; and

WHEREAS, Now in its 125th year of service, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America continue to address the challenges of serving our Nation's veterans; its members and auxiliaries perform outreach to better assist former members of the Armed Forces throughout the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Jewish War Veterans is credited with starting the first letter-writing campaign in support of the GI Bill, which enabled thousands of returning World War II veterans to attend college and make a better life for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, In 1963, the Jewish War Veterans were the only veteran's group to march with Martin Luther King, Jr. in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, the Jewish War Veterans was first among veterans' organizations to support the withdrawing of troops in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States have donated recreational items, such as books and games, to service clubs and canteens, as well as clothing and care packages needed by patients at veterans' hospitals and facilities; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to combating anti-Semitism in all its forms, the

Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America offers extensive programs committed to upholding America's deep concern about the condition of fellow Jews throughout the world and commits to the assistance of oppressed Jews worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The 125th Anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of America is a living testament to its indomitable heritage; and

WHEREAS, Through its long and sustained commitment to the ideals and principles upon which this beloved Nation was first founded, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America has unselfishly advanced that spirit of united purpose and shared concern which is the unalterable manifestation of our American experience; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America on its 125th Anniversary, and to pay tribute to its members for their outstanding contributions to our Nation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America.