

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMENDING Marcus Burley upon the occasion of his designation as a recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, nobly risking their own lives in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Marcus Burley 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, On the evening of August 28, 2023, a Feel Rite Fresh Market employee and Buffalo native, Marcus Burley, was in the grocery store's backroom, when a female coworker was having lunch in the room; suddenly, the woman began to have a coughing fit and he began to ask her repeatedly if she was okay, and she answered yes, when she evidently was struggling to breathe; and

WHEREAS, As the individual in danger started to tear up, Marcus Burley reacted quickly and began to perform the Heimlich maneuver; he performed multiple attempts, and on the third try of the Heimlich being performed by Marcus Burley, the female coworker was finally freed from the life-threatening situation; and

WHEREAS, The incident spanning no more than 10 to 15 minutes, the act of selflessness and bravery from Marcus Burley has resulted in an increased camaraderie among the Feel Rite employees; and

WHEREAS, Justly recognized as a hero, Marcus Burley richly merits the admiration of this Legislative Body and his community for his consummate, swift action in rushing to the life-saving aid of his fellow co-worker; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Marcus Burley should be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing a lifesaving deed; and

WHEREAS, Marcus Burley, in his spontaneous and heroic act, has so aptly demonstrated his character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his action, the collective concern of

ordinary citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without thought of danger or reward when others need help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Marcus Burley upon the occasion of his designation as a 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 Marcus Burley.