

BY: Senator RYAN

COMMENDING Jayden Gersitz 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, 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, acting swiftly and selflessly 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 Jayden Gersitz of Tonawanda, New York, 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, Responding without hesitation, Jayden Gersitz, a fifth-grade student at Franklin Middle School, was riding his bicycle to an after-school baseball game when he was met by his cousin who was rushing to retrieve the emergency fire department radio in his father's truck; a spectator of the sporting event had a medical emergency, and the radio was needed to call paramedics; and

WHEREAS, After securing the radio, Jayden Gersitz delivered it by bicycle to his uncle, who in turn called emergency responders; the paramedics arrived but parked in a different parking area; Jayden Gersitz, thinking quickly, hopped on his bike again and sped over to where the ambulance was located and directed the paramedics to the correct location, truly making a positive difference in their ability to respond efficiently; and

WHEREAS, This act of selflessness has resulted in Jayden Gersitz now carrying a small pager radio with him in case of an emergency; even in his adolescence, he is already following in the footsteps of his father, a Kenilworth Fire Department firefighter; Jayden Gersitz has already taken part in various activities at the fire station, observed numerous drills, and even has his own locker and tasks at the station; and

WHEREAS, Jayden Gersitz, 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 Jayden Gersitz 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 Jayden Gersitz.