

Senate Resolution No. 2215

BY: Senator STEC

HONORING Frank Munoff upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2024 Warren County Bar Association Liberty Bell Award

WHEREAS, Within every community, there exist certain individuals who have played an important role in helping the people and families of New York State; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge those individuals, in Warren County and New York State, who have demonstrated great selflessness and care for their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Frank Munoff upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2024 Warren County Bar Association Liberty Bell Award; and

WHEREAS, Frank Munoff, one of the original founders of Adirondack Operation Santa Claus, was a middle school teacher in Hudson Falls, New York, at the organization's inception in 1974; the mission was the creation of a fund for financially disadvantaged local children and their families, primarily during the Christmas holiday season; and

WHEREAS, Challenging community sponsors to pledge donations over the Thanksgiving holiday, Frank Munoff pledged to complete a 50-mile run/walk; the community's financial support would fund the first Adirondack Operation Santa Claus Run and Walk event; this dedicated humanitarian completed the challenge, running and walking continually throughout the day and night; and

WHEREAS, The modest proceeds in the Adirondack Operation Santa Claus program's inaugural year were just the beginning of the successful organization it is presently; today, it serves the needs of more than 2,500 underprivileged students and their families in 30 school districts within Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Essex, and Hamilton counties; the most recent event collected more than \$278,000 which provided food and clothing for those who are less fortunate; and

WHEREAS, Through his service to his community, Frank Munoff has made a lasting, positive impact on our region and our nation, making a difference in the lives of countless individuals; now President, he has remained with the program from its founding, witnessing the 50th Anniversary of Adirondack Operation Santa Claus in 2024; and

WHEREAS, Numerous volunteers, who have made this program the success it is today, receive no monetary compensation for their tireless efforts but are rewarded by the joy that comes from doing good work in their community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

honor Frank Munoff upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2024 Warren County Bar Association Liberty Bell Award, recognizing his contributions as a dedicated member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Frank Munoff.