

BY: M. of A. Santabarbara

COMMENDING the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce upon the occasion of celebrating its Military Appreciation event on May 17, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly recognize those organizations with the State of New York which have positively impacted their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce's Unified Military Affairs Council program upon the occasion of its celebration of the designation of Capital Region military installations on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Unified Military Affairs Council program highlights the importance of the military presence in the Capital Region and helps ensure its long-term viability and success; and

WHEREAS, The Unified Military Affairs Council program increases public knowledge of the contributions made by military units in the Capital Region, all of which impact our global, national, state, and regional security and economy; and

WHEREAS, The Military Appreciation event will be held on May 17, 2023, in Albany, New York; this auspicious occasion will recognize and pay just tribute to the men and women within the Capital Region who have served or who are serving our country so valiantly and honorably; and

WHEREAS, The Stratton Air National Guard Base, located in Scotia, New York, is home to the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing; and

WHEREAS, The 109th Airlift Wing flies the world's only ski-equipped LC-130 "Skibirds," as well as traditional C-130 "Wheelbirds," in support of Arctic and Antarctic operations; and

WHEREAS, Since 1988, the 109th Airlift Wing has provided airlift support to the National Science Foundation's South Pole research program; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Army Watervliet Arsenal is an Army-owned and operated manufacturing facility located in Watervliet, New York; and

WHEREAS, Known as "America's Cannon Factory", the Watervliet Arsenal is the nation's oldest, continuously operated arsenal having begun its manufacturing of military hardware during the War of 1812; and

WHEREAS, The Navy Reserve Center Schenectady, located in Scotia, New York, is one of one hundred eighteen Navy Reserve Centers throughout the

country; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Navy Reserve is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team and Joint forces, in times of peace or war; and

WHEREAS, The Navy Officer Recruiting Station Albany, located in Albany, New York is one of one thousand four hundred Recruiting Stations and Centers throughout the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Europe; and

WHEREAS, The Navy Officer Recruiting Station Albany is responsible for recruiting young men and women into the Active Duty and Naval Reserve officer force; and

WHEREAS, The New York Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion, located in Watervliet, New York and is under the command of Joint Force Headquarters, New York Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, The New York Army National Guard was the only state Army National Guard to exceed its recruiting goals for the federal fiscal year which ended on September 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, The Capital Region is honored to be home to these critically important military installations and the proud and dedicated service men and women that carry out their respective missions; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to salute the Soldiers, Airmen, and Sailors of the military units stationed within the Capital Region, to honor their dedication and collective contributions to our communities and to New York State; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce's Unified Military Affairs Council program upon the occasion of celebrating the Military Appreciation event on May 17, 2023, and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of the Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce, the Commanding Officers of the 109th Airlift Wing, the United States Army's Watervliet Arsenal, the Navy Reserve Center Schenectady, the Navy Officer Recruiting Station Albany, the New York Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion, and members of Congress Representing the Capital Region of the State of New York.