

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Town of Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Corps upon the occasion of celebrating its 40th Anniversary of Ambulance Service and 10th Anniversary of Paramedic Service to the community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who give outstanding service to the people of the Empire State, and whose extraordinary achievements save the lives of their fellow citizens, should be recognized because their efforts so profoundly strengthen our shared commitment to family and community life; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to congratulate the Town of Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Corps upon the occasion of celebrating its 40th Anniversary of Ambulance Service and 10th Anniversary of Paramedic Service to the community; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on Saturday, March 21, 2009, at the Corps' headquarters at 178 Mill Street, Liberty, New York; and

WHEREAS, Access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer ambulance corps members are an important part of the safety net of America's healthcare system; they provide lifesaving care to those in need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Corps (TOLVAC) was incorporated in March 1969 with 16 charter members; at the time, it had one ambulance and no headquarters building; and

WHEREAS, Purchasing the "Catskill Shopper" building at 178 Mill Street, TOLVAC subsequently constructed a second ambulance out of a Ford van and redesigned the building with two bay doors on the street level; and

WHEREAS, TOLVAC purchased a third ambulance and raised funds to enlarge its headquarters building; by 1975, it had completed an addition to headquarters, giving it three bays, a larger meeting room, and facilities for the crews to use when they were on duty; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1980s, TOLVAC was one of four Sullivan County squads to become defibrillator equipped; these new life saving devices quickly proved their worth and TOLVAC recorded the first "save" in Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, In 1989, TOLVAC obtained a "fly car" first response vehicle to assist in helping patients even faster; it formed the basis of TOLVAC's Advanced Life Support Intermediate program to deliver mid-level ALS care to patients while awaiting paramedic response; and

WHEREAS, With an ever increasing burden on TOLVAC as the sole ALS provider in Sullivan County, it applied for full Advanced Life Support Paramedic certification; it received permission from the Hudson Valley Regional EMS Council in May 1999 and went on-line with its first paramedic response on June 20, 1999; and

WHEREAS, TOLVAC's call volume rose to over 2000 annual calls by 1999; it obtained a fourth ambulance and a second paramedic fly car; in 2000, it raised the funds for a new 2 story addition to its headquarters building; and

WHEREAS, Currently, TOLVAC has four ambulances, three ALS fly cars, 53 members and 16 paramedics; its 2008 call volume was 2578, and its response rate is 100% of all dispatched calls for the past eight years; and

WHEREAS, Proud of its service to the community, visitors and neighbors, TOLVAC provides the best possible care in the quickest possible time frame to its patients on a seven-day-a-week, 365-day-per-year

basis; and

WHEREAS, TOLVAC has undertaken and performed its critically needed responsibilities without the need for a single dollar of taxpayer funds; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized, applauded and honored by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Town of Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Corps upon the occasion of celebrating its 40th Anniversary of Ambulance Service and 10th Anniversary of Paramedic Service to the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Town of Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Corps, 178 Mill Street, Liberty, New York 12754.