

BY: Senator MARTUCCI

COMMENDING Port Jervis Police Officer Ryan Kievit 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, 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 Port Jervis Police Officer Ryan Kievit 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 Friday, June 4, 2021, Port Jervis Officer Ryan Kievit was headed home from a late-night work shift on State Route 6 in Greenville, New York, when he observed a pick-up truck stopped perpendicular in the roadway blocking both lanes of travel near a curve in the road; and

WHEREAS, Although he was off-duty, Officer Ryan Kievit, without hesitation or regard for how own safety, exited his vehicle and approached the truck; during this time, he observed a 25-year-old unresponsive male with a hypodermic needle in view; and

WHEREAS, Fearing the driver was suffering from an opiate overdose, Officer Ryan Kievit called 911 and requested emergency services to respond to the scene before breaking a side window of the locked vehicle; and

WHEREAS, After assessing the victim, who was not breathing and appeared to have no pulse, Officer Ryan Kievit administered several doses of naloxone, placed the man in a recovery position, and continued to render life-saving measures until he regained consciousness and was turned over to EMS; and

WHEREAS, As a direct result of Officer Ryan Kievit's astute and courageous actions, a young man's life was saved that day; his tireless efforts and bravery are in keeping with the finest traditions of law enforcement, making him a true asset to the Port Jervis Police Department and the citizens of Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ryan Kievit began his illustrious career with the

City of Port Jervis Police Department on March 21, 2016, after transferring from the New York State Park Police where he served from October 2014 to March 2016; and

WHEREAS, A certified drug recognition expert, Officer Ryan Kievit is a highly proactive and community-oriented bicycle patrol officer, as well as an active member of several local outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ryan Kievit, 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 are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Port Jervis Police Officer Ryan Kievit 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 Port Jervis Police Officer Ryan Kievit.