

Senate Resolution No. 1342

BY: Senator GALLIVAN

COMMENDING James McManus 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 incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of exemplary citizens who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, and in doing so, help others to avert life-threatening danger; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend James McManus 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 Thursday, October 14, 2021, James McManus, an employee of the Caledonia-Mumford Central School Transportation Department, was driving a school bus carrying 38 students from the Batavia Career and Technical Education School to the Building Trades house project site, when he noticed a motorist in the oncoming lane attempting to pass the two vehicles in front of him, placing it in direct line of the school bus; and

WHEREAS, Realizing his vehicle was about to be hit head on by the out-of-control car, James McManus carefully began to maneuver the bus to the side of the road; however, the oncoming vehicle was going very fast and clipped the front corner of the bus, spinning it a distance and then hit the rear corner of the bus; and

WHEREAS, With great composure, James McManus maintained control of the wheel and steered toward the ditch and braked, finally stopping a few feet short of an electrical pole with three transformers on it; and

WHEREAS, James McManus' calm demeanor and 16 years of experience and training truly prevented a horrific tragedy; fortunately, there were no major injuries and James is now driving again full-time; and

WHEREAS, Praised for his astute actions, James McManus demonstrated his true character and genuine compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his actions, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of the State of New York who

voluntarily respond when others are in need; and

WHEREAS, Justly recognized as a hero, James McManus richly merits the admiration of this Legislative Body and his community for his consummate courage and heroic actions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend James McManus 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 James McManus.