

BY: Senator PALUMBO

COMMENDING James John Vlacich 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 John Vlacich 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 January 20, 2022, at approximately 5:30 a.m., James John Vlacich noticed his neighbor's house on Manhasset Trail in Ridge, New York, was on fire; without regard for his own safety, he entered the home engulfed in flames, found the seriously injured resident, and brought her to safety outside; and

WHEREAS, Shortly thereafter, a Ridge Fire Department Ambulance crew arrived on the scene and transported the woman to Stony Brook University Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Praised for his swift actions, James John Vlacich 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 John Vlacich 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 John Vlacich 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 John Vlacich.