

**BY:** Senator GAUGHRAN

**COMMENDING** John Amato 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 John Amato 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,** At approximately 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2021, John Amato, who owns and operates J. Amato Quality Spray Finishing, was relaxing at his home in Northport, New York, when he heard a faint beeping noise through his open back door; he went outside and realized it was coming from his wheelchair-bound next-door neighbor's home at 65 Scudder Avenue; and

**WHEREAS,** After noticing flames in the second-floor room of the house, John Amato quickly grabbed his fire extinguisher and ran to his neighbor's house, screaming her name as he approached the door; and

**WHEREAS,** John Amato kicked in the door and immediately observed heavy, dense smoke and flames; not being able to breathe, he went back outside and decided to enter with a lower stance; he swiftly noticed the woman lying on the floor with her hand outstretched and trying to say something; and

**WHEREAS,** Responding without hesitation, John Amato approached the woman, turned her around, picked her up, and carried her outside the front door to the safety of a nearby house; shortly thereafter, two police officers arrived at the scene followed by the fire chief, and the woman was transported to the hospital; and

**WHEREAS,** John Amato, 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 John Amato 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 John Amato.