Senate Resolution No. 1721

BY: Senator STEC

COMMENDING Corey Howe 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 Corey Howe 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 the evening of September 25, 2023, in St. Huberts, New York, Corey Howe, a former member of the Marine Corps, had ended his usual UPS route from Plattsburgh to Elizabethtown and Keene Valley in an unusual way, by heroically saving a man's life; and

WHEREAS, With a 25-year long career driving for UPS, Corey Howe was the first person on the scene as a tanker truck rolled over on its side on the stretch of State Route 73 between Round Pond and Chapel Pond; the overturned tanker blocked both lanes of traffic and spilled an estimated 3,500 gallons of asphalt emulsion and 35 gallons of diesel onto the roadway; and

WHEREAS, With dust filling the air on the scene, Corey Howe immediately became concerned with the condition of the driver; he rushed to the wreck and thankfully, was able to sustain the driver, who had suffered non-life threatening injuries from the crash; and

WHEREAS, When Corey Howe initially approached the scene, the driver was still trapped inside of the cab of the truck and diesel was leaking around the crash site; before the situation intensified, he made it to the front of the vehicle and pulled the windshield, then with his knife he cut the rubber blocking his view of the driver; and

WHEREAS, Knowing a fire could break out any moment from the spilled fuel and damaged truck, Corey Howe cut the driver's seatbelt and bearhug lifted him from danger, where a doctor bystander assessed his injuries in a safe spot down the road; and

WHEREAS, Suddenly, Corey Howe rushed back to his UPS truck to grab

the fire extinguisher as a fire broke out at the crash site; he extinguished the small fire in the cab of the truck and then waited for troopers and firefighters to arrive on the scene; and

WHEREAS, Aside from his military training, Corey Howe credits UPS for properly equipping him to deal with emergencies; he is a member of the safety committee at UPS Plattsburgh and helps train new drivers in safety; and

WHEREAS, Beyond making deliveries, Corey Howe is a husband and father; he has been married to his wife, Dana, for 25 years and their 21-year-old twins, Evan and Tanner, both also work at UPS; and

WHEREAS, Justly recognized as a hero, Corey Howe richly merits the admiration of this Legislative Body and his community for his consummate, swift action in saving the life of this driver; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Corey Howe should be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing a lifesaving deed; and

WHEREAS, Corey Howe, 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 Corey Howe 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 Corey Howe.