Senate Resolution No. 892

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMENDING Earl Arnold upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis on May 17, 2023

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Earl Arnold upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis on May 17, 2023, to be celebrated at this year's 6th Annual Veteran's Recognition Dinner at the Delta Lake Inn of Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, The dedication and sacrifices of our military personnel ensure our continued role as a Nation which embodies the ideals of democracy, and is a defender of liberty for peoples throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Earl Arnold, affectionately known as "E.P.", joined the United States Air Force in 1952 and attended Boot Camp at Sampson Air Force Base in New York; and

WHEREAS, At his initial posting to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Earl Arnold completed Lineman training; he later transferred to Carswell Air Force Base and served as an Aircraft Electrician; and

WHEREAS, In 1953, Earl Arnold served in North Africa with the 11th Bomb Wing and returned to Carswell AFB after six months; and

WHEREAS, Earl Arnold voluntary discharged in 1956, and rejoined the United States Air Force the same year after working as a civilian for less than 90 days; and

WHEREAS, Truly a well-traveled and experienced airman, Earl Arnold was posted to Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, New York as an Aircraft Electrician until 1959; then from 1959 to 1961 he transferred to Stewart Field near West Point, New York; and

WHEREAS, Some of his many achievements and endeavors while serving include: completing Jump Certification and Advanced Freefall Jump Qualification at Montgomery, New York in 1959; receiving certification as Jump Master; serving as Jump Instructor at West Point for Cadet Jump training as well as United States Air Force members; and

WHEREAS, From 1960 to 1962, Earl Arnold transferred to the United States Air Force Counter Insurgency Program and posted to various bases and postings in Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Japan, and the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Earl Arnold valiantly served in many tours and from 1962 to 1965 he was posted to Griffiss Air Force Base in New York with the 49th Fighter Intercept Squadron; from 1965 to 1966 he was posted to Vietnam with the 14th Air Commandos of the United States Air Force; from 1966 to 1969 he returned to Griffiss Air Force Base with Strategic Air Command, including a temporary duty assignment to Guam and South East Asia for air combat missions; lastly, from 1969 to 1972 he remained at Griffiss Air Force Base as an Aircraft Electrician with Strategic Air Command until his retirement in August of 1972; and

WHEREAS, Completing three tours of duty in Vietnam, Earl Arnold flew counter insurgency missions and "Bird Bog" missions, including the attack on Bien Hoa Airbase, furthermore, in 1968 to 1969, he proudly flew combat and bombing missions; and

WHEREAS, Earl Arnold's heroic service has led to an impressive acquisition of miliary awards and honors, he received the Air and Space Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Ribbon with a Bronze Star; United Nations Service Medal with a Bronze Star; Vietnam Service Medal with a Bronze Star; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; Presidential Unit Citation; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with two oak leaves; Air Force Good Conduct Medal; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship; and a myriad of other awards and decorations; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Colleen Arnold, and their five children, Paula Eason, Earl Paul Arnold II, Timothy Arnold, Frank Arnold, and Ryan Arnold, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended, and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Earl Arnold upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis on May 17, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be

transmitted to Earl Arnold.