Assembly Resolution No. 962

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

HONORING John J. Conners, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis Club and New York State Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund on May 18, 2024

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor John J. Conners, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis Club and New York State Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund at their 7th annual Veterans Recognition Dinner on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at The Beeches Manor in Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, Joining the United States Army on August 11, 1970, John J. Conners, Jr. received Basic Training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Ord for Infantry Training; and

WHEREAS, John J. Conners, Jr. served bravely in Vietnam from January 10, 1971 to October 1971; he served with Americal Division 23rd Infantry, as well as the 11th and 198th Infantry Brigade in Chu Li in the Central Highlands; and

WHEREAS, After serving in Vietnam, John J. Conners, Jr. was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado and was honorably discharged February 14, 1972, holding the rank of SP4; and

WHEREAS, On June 15, 1971, John J. Conners, Jr. was wounded in action and received the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous and dedicated service to his country, John J. Conners, Jr. received the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Defense Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, Bronze Star, and the Combat Infantry Badge; and

WHEREAS, With a steadfast and unwavering commitment to his fellow veterans, John J. Conners, Jr. is a life member of VFW Post 2246 and has served on the executive board; he served four terms as Commander, and held the positions of Chaplain, Color Guard, Executive Board, and he currently serves as 1st Vice Commander; and

WHEREAS, Truly dedicated to his community, John J. Conners, Jr. is also a member of Henry P. Smith Post American Legion, both VFW and Legion in Rome, New York, the Rome Veterans Council, the MOPH and DAV; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Mary Lou, and their

three beautiful children, Kelly, Sean and Shannon, 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 risked their lives for their beloved Nation; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, John J. Conners, Jr. demonstrates his love for his country and merits forevermore, the highest respect of this 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 honor John J. Conners, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis Club and New York State Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund on May 18, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John J. Conners, Jr.