

Senate Resolution No. 2203

**BY:** Senator STEWART-COUSINS

**HONORING** the distinguished veterans from the State of New York upon the occasion of their induction into the New York State Senate 2026 Veterans Hall of Fame

**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 the distinguished veterans from the State of New York upon the occasion of their induction into the New York State Senate 2026 Veterans Hall of Fame; and

**WHEREAS,** The New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame inductees are members of any branch of the United States Armed Forces, which include Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, and Marine Corps; these exceptional men and women are chosen for this prestigious honor based on either service in combat or notable work performed after discharge from the service; and

**WHEREAS,** The 2026 inductees include: Richard V. Acritelli, Joseph Austin, Robin Dana Blocker, Jerry C. Bowman, Susan Branam, Joseph Canzoneri, David Crum, Sandy Davis, John DePerno, Antonio Diaz, Lori Dispenza, Christopher J. Douglas, Modesto Figueroa, John F. Fox, William Frank, Jr., Eugene Gerrard, Jaime Gonzalez, Colden Grant, Nathan B. Grant, Susan Herson, MD, Joseph Hunt, Willie Jackson, Lou Jerome, John Harry Kellers, Jason D. Knapp, Eugene Loparco, Frank Marcinek, Jezebel McIntosh, Ronnie McNair, Kevin C. Meggett, Michael R. Militello, George M. Morreale, John A. Neggia, Paul Oleksiw, Denis E. Oliver, Justin Young Park, Juan Parra, Martin Pedraza, Dominick Pepe, Massiel Pimentel, Joscelyn Ralph, Rafael Rodriguez Jr., Diego Rubio, Karleen Susan Savidge, John Schroeder, John Shott, Brian Sillik, Donee' Smalls, Luis Soltero-Rodriguez, Marie-Michelle Strah, PhD, Larry Strassner, Michael Sweeney, Manolin Tirado, Michael Carmine Vellucci, Frederico Alexander Watson, Ron Watson, Gary A. Wood, and Michael Zemser; and

**WHEREAS,** The banner of freedom will always wave over our beloved New York and all of America, the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave; and

**WHEREAS,** The freedoms and security we cherish as Americans come at a very high price for those serving in the military in times of conflict; it is fitting and proper that we, who are the beneficiaries of those who risk their lives, must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country; 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 the distinguished veterans from the State of New York upon the occasion of their induction into the New York State Senate 2026 Veterans Hall of Fame; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the 2026 inductees.