

2025-J12

Senate Resolution No. 12

BY: Senator TEDISCO

COMMENDING Merrill S. Patrick posthumously 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, 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 esteemed Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Merrill S. Patrick posthumously 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, A resident of Saratoga, Merrill S. Patrick will be honored during the monthly Honor Deceased Veterans Ceremony, held at the Saratoga County Municipal Center in Ballston Spa, New York, on Tuesday, November 19, 2024; 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, Merrill S. Patrick was born to Claude and Carrie Merrill in West Rupert, Vermont, on June 18, 1917; he attended schools in Schuylerville, New York; and

WHEREAS, On October 4, 1934, Merrill S. Patrick, only 17 years old, entered the Civilian Conservation Corps, a government work relief program to help the United States recover from the Great Depression; on May 15, 1937, he was discharged; and

WHEREAS, On April 9, 1941, Merrill S. Patrick enlisted in the United States Army, serving with Company G, 28th Infantry Regiment, 8th Infantry Division, during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Merrill S. Patrick landed on Utah Beach in France on July 4, 1944, and was wounded only eight days later in Normandy, earning the Purple Heart; after his hospitalization, he was transferred to the United States where he recovered until he was discharged, as Private First Class, on May 12, 1945; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous service, Merrill S. Patrick was awarded not only the Purple Heart but also the Good Conduct Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the Bronze Campaign Star, and the Combat Infantryman Badge; and

WHEREAS, Merrill S. Patrick married the love of his life, Marvil, and the couple were blessed with two sons and two daughters; and

WHEREAS, For 35 years, Merrill S. Patrick worked as a Beater Operator at the United Board and Carton Corporation in Thompson after which he was employed at Schuylerville Central Schools for 10 years, retiring in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Active in his community, Merrill S. Patrick was a member of the American Legion Old Saratoga Post No. 278, a member of the Committee of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of America, and a coach for the Little League program in Schuylerville for many years; and

WHEREAS, Merrill S. Patrick died on November 4, 1990, at the age of 73; he is missed by all who count themselves fortunate to have shared their lives with him; 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 to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Merrill S. Patrick demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore the highest respect of his 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 Merrill S. Patrick posthumously 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 the family of Merrill S. Patrick.