

2013-K733

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending "E J" Knapik for his many years of ceaseless dedicated service to the veterans of his community

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 "E J" Knapik for his many years of ceaseless dedicated service to the veterans of his community; and

WHEREAS, A veteran of World War II, "E J" Knapik has been actively involved in AMVETS since its early days; and

WHEREAS, He was a charter member of the Amsterdam AMVETS Post 21, representing it as a delegate to the State Convention every year for 62 years; and

WHEREAS, "E J" Knapik has also served the Amsterdam AMVETS Post 21 as a State Legislative Chairman for over 40 years, as well as District adjutant and alternate NEC; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, "E J" Knapik is a popular AMVETS presenter of ROTC awards at Colleges and Universities; and

WHEREAS, He was instrumental in the completion of the New York State Vietnam Memorial, the New York State Korean Memorial, and the New York World War II Memorial; and

WHEREAS, "E J" Knapik has dedicated his time to the Saratoga National VA Cemetery support group, serving as a Trustee from its start in 1996, to the present, and was on the committee when the land was purchased;

and

WHEREAS, For over 40 years, "E J" Knapik served as the VAVS Representative for the Capital District for AMVETS at the Samuel Stratton VA Medical Center, and is the only volunteer with more than 50 years of service; and

WHEREAS, "E J" Knapik was honored with the AMVETS National VAVS Leadership Award in 2007, and with the 2009 Silver Helmet AMVET of the Year Award during a banquet held at the Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport on March 14, 2009, also known as the Veteran "Oscar"; and

WHEREAS, On Veterans Day, 2013, "E J" Knapik received the City of Amsterdam Veteran Service Medal, and was honored as the Grand Marshal in the Amsterdam and Schenectady Veterans' Day parades; and

WHEREAS, "E J" Knapik is the Faithful Navigator of the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Schenectady Assembly 708 for his 19th year; he has exhibited the true spirit of service to veterans through his commitment to veterans; 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, 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 "E J" Knapik for his many years of ceaseless dedicated service to the veterans of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to "E J" Knapik.