

## 2013-J2757

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the tragic and untimely death of New York State Trooper David W. Cunniff on Tuesday, December 17, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to convey its grateful appreciation and heartfelt regret in recognition of the loss of a courageous police officer who dedicated his purposeful life and career in faithful service to his family, community and the New York State Police; and

WHEREAS, It is with profound sadness that this Legislative Body records the passing of 35 year-old New York State Trooper David W. Cunniff, of Princetown, New York, who made the ultimate sacrifice on Tuesday, December 17, 2013, while faithfully executing his responsibilities, serving the people of New York State with dedication, loyalty and compassion, and who devoted his purposeful life and career to serve and protect; and

WHEREAS, Born in Schenectady, New York, David W. Cunniff attended Schenectady Christian School; he was home schooled during high school and graduated from the Bryant & Stratton Business Entrepreneurship Program; and

WHEREAS, A 2004 graduate of the New York State Police Academy, David W. Cunniff was proud to be a Trooper and shared his remarkable people skills in every encounter; and

WHEREAS, Along with his soul mate and beloved wife of 14 years, Amy, together they were chapter leaders for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), raising money for treatment and cure after their son Caleb was diagnosed with this degenerative neuro-muscular disease in 2009; Dave and Amy worked diligently to advocate for those in need in the SMA community; and

WHEREAS, Trooper David W. Cunniff was a talented musician and an

active member of the worship team at Grace Fellowship, Latham, New York; he played the electric guitar among numerous other instruments; he was also an outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting; and

WHEREAS, Trooper David W. Cunniff, a Trooper for nine years was most recently assigned to Troop T's Fonda-Fultonville barracks; previously he worked in Troop B and Troop G, and was a member of the Executive Services Detail at the New York State Capitol, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Along with his beloved wife, Amy, and their sons, Caleb, 6, and Zachary, 4, Trooper David W. Cunniff is survived by his parents, Kenneth D. and Deborah Lanphear Cunniff; sisters and brothers-in-law, Lynn and John G. Nuzback, Sarah and Matthew Reinemann, and Christine and Shaun McDonald; his grandmother, Beverly Lanphear; father and mother-in-law, Paul and Linda Hobson; and several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews; as well as many friends and associates at the New York State Police; and

WHEREAS, Trooper David W. Cunniff lived his life with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for the welfare of others in the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Trooper David W. Cunniff leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the untimely death of New York State Trooper David W. Cunniff, noting the significance of his contributions on behalf of the citizens

of this noble Empire State, and expressing its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Trooper David W. Cunniff.