

2013-K772

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Richard M. Pedro, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Richard M. Pedro died on Friday, January 10, 2014, at the age of 87; and

WHEREAS, He was a lifelong resident of Owego, New York, and the son of the late Michael and Florence Pedro; and

WHEREAS, Richard M. Pedro served during World War II in the United States Navy from May 24, 1944, until October 30, 1947 which includes 22 months sea duty aboard the USS Weiss and was honorably discharged; and

WHEREAS, Upon his discharge from the United States Navy, Mr. Pedro joined The American Legion and Tioga Post No. 401 in Owego, New York; he was an active member for 65 continuous years and was honored with an Honorary Life Membership in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pedro served as a leader in The American Legion at the local, state and national levels; he served as Commander of the American Legion Department of New York and for 29 years, he served as Adjutant of The American Legion Department of New York; he was honored at the 94th American Legion National Convention in 2012 by the delegates, who unanimously voted to bestow on him the honorary title of Past National Commander, joining legendary New Yorkers Theodore Roosevelt Jr. and long-time U.S. Representative Hamilton Fish in receiving this rare honor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pedro remained true to the goals and ideals of the Preamble of the American Legion Constitution by his service to God and coun-

try and devotion to mutual helpfulness by service; and

WHEREAS, Richard Pedro retired from IBM after 33 years of service; he served his community as Communicant and Lay-lector of St. Patrick's Church, Owego, New York; member of the Tioga County Historical Society; life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; life member of the Elks Lodge #1039; President of the Tioga County Christmas League; and member and Past Board President of the New York State Veterans' Home in Oxford, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pedro is survived by his loving wife, Jeanne M. Pedro, with whom he shared 61 years of marriage; a daughter, Debra A. Hackett; a son, Richard JM Pedro; seven grandchildren, Jacquelyn M., Nicole L., Taylor A., and James B. Hackett, John M., Richard D., and Christopher M. Pedro; a sister-in-law, Darlene Salata; and several nieces and nephews; and he was predeceased by brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Jean Pedro, sister and brother-in-law, Arlene and Donald Whitney, and brother-in-law, John Salata; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Richard M. Pedro 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; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Richard M. Pedro, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Richard M. Pedro.