

2013-J4436

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Rick McDermott upon the occasion of his induction into the New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those patriotic and civic-minded community members who dedicate their lives and careers to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Rick McDermott upon the occasion of his induction into the New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1983, the New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame was formed to seek out and honor those individuals who not only have exhibited genuine excellence in hunting, fishing, trapping, and related outdoor sports, but have demonstrated sincere and continuing dedication to natural resources conservation; and

WHEREAS, Inductees into this prestigious institution are honored "not for what they have taken, but for what they have given"; and

WHEREAS, Rick McDermott through his numerous contributions to the areas of wildlife conservation, public policy, hunting safety, and youth education is fully deserving of this distinguished honor; and

WHEREAS, For several years, Rick McDermott has served as an officer on the board of directors of the Conservation Alliance of New York, actively helping to fulfill the organization's mission to secure access to hunting, fishing, trapping, and other sustainable activities for those who use New York's renewable natural resources; he is also a board member and officer of the Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, as well as the Albion Rod and Gun Club; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man has admirably taught hunting safety and good stewardship to the next generation of outdoorsmen for a number of

years; he was responsible for coordinating the joint youth pheasant hunt with CANY, Oswego Federation, NWTF and the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs; these efforts were integral in ensuring that over 100 young adults were instructed on safe practices for pheasant hunting; and WHEREAS, Rick McDermott is the founder of the New York State Crossbow Coalition; he has devoted much of his own time and resources to promoting the crossbow as a legal hunting implement in New York State; and WHEREAS, Rick McDermott's hard work and advocacy for the legalization of crossbow hunting was successful as crossbows were legalized in the 2014-2015 New York State Budget; and

WHEREAS, In addition to advocating for crossbow legalization, Rick McDermott has played an integral role in advocating for other sportmen's issues in Central New York and in Albany; for several years, he has tirelessly coordinated bus trips to Albany; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, Rick McDermott organized transportation for over 225 sportsmen and women from Oswego and Onondaga counties to travel to Albany to protest the NY SAFE Act; and

WHEREAS, Considered a bridge builder by many, Rick McDermott has forged good relationships between federations and other sporting organizations; the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs awarded him their highest honor, Conservationist of the Year, in 2013, though he is not a resident of the county; and

WHEREAS, Rick McDermott has also received awards from the Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and was recognized as the New York State Conservation Council's 2013 NYSCC Volunteer Conservationist of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Rick McDermott has dedicated a lifetime of giving back to the pursuits of outdoor sports and wildlife conservation; he exemplifies the spirit of the New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our atten-

tion, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Rick McDermott upon the occasion of his induction into the New York State Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rick McDermott.