

## 2013-J4644

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the sacrifices and saluting the service of those veterans who are members of the New York Korean Veterans of the Vietnam War Association

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor the sacrifices and salute the service of those veterans who are members of the New York Korean Veterans of the Vietnam War Association; and

WHEREAS, The United States holds freedom, democracy, and self-determination as its highest ideals; the United States entered the Vietnam War to protect those ideals for the people of South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, During the Vietnam War, more than 325,000 soldiers from the Republic of Korea fought alongside American troops; and

WHEREAS, From 1964 until the last troops left Vietnam on March 23, 1973, their unwavering support in the fight for freedom and democracy resulted in nearly 5,100 Korean soldiers giving their lives and almost 11,000 being wounded in that effort; and

WHEREAS, While six other nations and many people from the region assisted and fought alongside U.S. soldiers, the Republic of Korea was second only to the United States in the number of combat troops deployed to Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, The Korean troops were known throughout the conflict for their fierce combat skills fighting alongside their brothers in arms; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 95 percent of Korean veterans of the Vietnam War living in the United States are American citizens; many still suffer from the emotional, physical, and psychological effects resulting from their participation in that conflict; and

WHEREAS, The people of this State, and our community in particular, owe a profound debt of gratitude to those citizens of the Republic of

Korea who answered the call to protect and defend those liberties and values held so dear; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the sacrifices and salute the service of those veterans who are members of the New York Korean Veterans of the Vietnam War Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed be transmitted to Mr. Myungkook Lee, President, New York Korean Veterans of the Vietnam War Association.