

## 2013-J4887

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Bainbridge name change from Jericho to Bainbridge

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the distinguished histories and milestones of communities across this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Bainbridge name change, to be celebrated with an all town picnic on Sunday, June 1, 2014, in Bainbridge, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Bainbridge in Chenango County, established in 1786, was originally known as Jericho, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1814, a partially built meeting house was engulfed with flames and burned to the ground under mysterious circumstances; rumors began to travel and the Town of Jericho acquired a dubious reputation; and

WHEREAS, One of Jericho's merchants, while on a trip to the Hudson Valley, was asked the name of his hometown; when he answered Jericho, the people exclaimed, "Oh, that wicked place where they burned the church"; and

WHEREAS, Upon his return home, the merchant, unhappy with they way people reacted when he mentioned Jericho, began his quest to change the name of his hometown; he drew up the papers and his idea was taken seriously by the town residents; and

WHEREAS, Desiring to display their ardent patriotism, the residents chose to rename their town after Commodore William Bainbridge, a naval hero during the War of 1812; this esteemed man had captained the USS CONSTITUTION and won a major victory against the British; and

WHEREAS, On April 15, 1814, the New York State Legislature officially recognized and honored the new Town of Bainbridge, New York; and  
WHEREAS, The Bainbridge community prospered under its new name, building a dam to utilize water power for local mills including a furniture factory, tanning operation and various other businesses; and  
WHEREAS, Remaining fruitful over the decades of growth and change, the Town of Bainbridge continues its commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its citizens, ensuring a positive business, institutional and educational climate, and providing all essential services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Bainbridge name change from Jericho to Bainbridge, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the community of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Town of Bainbridge.