

## 2013-J5045

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION paying tribute to Vietnam War Veteran Walter L. Cooper as he is honored by the Richmond Hill Historical Society on May 23, 2014

WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces who served so faithfully and courageously in wars in which our Nation's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace during peacetime, deserve the highest commendation of this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to pay tribute to Vietnam War Veteran Walter L. Cooper as he is honored by the Richmond Hill Historical Society; his service and sacrifice will be recognized on Friday, May 23, 2014, at the event, "A Tribute to Richmond Hill War Veterans"; and

WHEREAS, The Richmond Hill Historical Society endeavors to preserve the past and promote the future of Richmond Hill through fostering a better appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of its historic heritage as embodied by its architectural legacy and the contributions of its past and present residents; and

WHEREAS, "A Tribute to Richmond Hill War Veterans" honors the courageous men and women of Richmond Hill, New York, who took part in a number of our Nation's 20th and 21st century military conflicts; attendees will have the opportunity to speak with veterans and learn firsthand about World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and the Gulf Wars; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Hill resident Walter L. Cooper served his country with honor and distinction as a member of the United States Army during the Vietnam War; he was raised in Hempstead, New York, and enlisted in the Army after graduating from college; and

WHEREAS, Walter L. Cooper served from January 5, 1966 to October 31, 1967; discharged from the Valley Forge Army Hospital, this proud soldier was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with a "V" Cluster for actions in a combat situation, as well as a Purple Heart for being wounded as a result of that action; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to Vietnam War Veteran Walter L. Cooper as he is honored by the Richmond Hill Historical Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Walter L. Cooper.