

2013-J5066

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring veteran Nicholas Cataldo upon the occasion of the recognition of his distinguished military service at a Memorial Day celebration on May 23, 2014

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor veteran Nicholas Cataldo upon the occasion of the recognition of his distinguished military service at a Memorial Day celebration on May 23, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Born in New York, Nicholas Cataldo of Flushing, Queens, graduated from Aviation High School in Queens in June of 1967; and

WHEREAS, On January 8, 1968, Nicholas Cataldo began serving his country as a member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, One year later, Nicholas Cataldo was deployed to The Republic of Vietnam where he spent the next twelve months before returning to the Continental United States; he served with the 1st Aviation Brigade, 214th Combat Aviation Battalion as a crew member and helicopter mechanic in the Mekong Delta; and

WHEREAS, After three years of service, Nicholas Cataldo was honorably discharged in 1971, and returned to New York to find gainful employment as a printer; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Cataldo is the recipient of numerous medals and badges for his bravery and sacrifice during his service including Aircrew Wings, Expert Rifle Badge, The Army Commendation Medal, The Air

Medal, National Defense Service Medal, The Good Conduct Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze service stars, and Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm unit Citation; and

WHEREAS, Today, Nicholas Cataldo has been a member of Chapter 32 of the Vietnam Veterans of America for over twenty five years, and has worked on behalf of veterans since he joined; in addition, he is very involved in burying indigent veterans, insuring no veteran gets buried without honor and dignity; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife of 45 years, Yolanda, and their two sons, as well as seven grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, The dedication and sacrifices of our military personnel ensure our continued role as a Nation which embodies the ideals of democracy, and is a defender of liberty for peoples throughout the world; 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 his patriotism both at home and abroad, Nicholas Cataldo demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore, the highest respect of his 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 honor veteran Nicholas Cataldo upon the occasion of the recognition of his distinguished military service at a Memorial Day celebration on May 23, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to veteran Nicholas Cataldo.