

2013-J5067

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring veteran Jong Soo Park 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 Jong Soo Park upon the occasion of the recognition of his distinguished military service at a Memorial Day celebration on May 23, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Born on April 29, 1946 in Chung-chung-nam-do, Korea, Jong Soo Park was deployed to Vietnam on June 15, 1966; he served his country in the Vietnam War as part of the Republic of Korea Marine "Blue Dragon" Brigade, one of the three main units deployed to Vietnam to fight alongside United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, During his participation, Jong Soo Park fought in the Battle of Tra Binh, which is known as the most famous battle fought by the Republic of Korea Marines during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, During battle, approximately 300 Korean soldiers were attacked in two directions by more than 1,500 men from the Vietnam People's Army; Jong Soo Park and his fellow Korean soldiers, rather than abandoning their position, fought with all their might, successfully winning the Battle of Tra Binh; and

WHEREAS, After serving in the Vietnam War for approximately one year, Jong Soo Park was honorably discharged on May 14, 1976; he then served

in the Republic of Korea Marines until December 30, 1968; and

WHEREAS, In 1982, Jong Soo Park immigrated to the United States, and operated a restaurant; eight years later, he became an owner of a local grocery store; and

WHEREAS, Jong Soo Park became the Vice Chairperson for the Korean Marine Corp Veterans Association of Eastern United States of America in 1994, and currently serves as the Treasurer of the organization; 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, Jong Soo Park 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 Jong Soo Park 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 Jong Soo Park.