

2013-J5070

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

WHEREAS, Raised in Bayside, Queens, New York, Gene McNamara of White-stone, New York, graduated from Benjamin Cardozo High School, before he began serving his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps in August of 1974; and

WHEREAS, Gene McNamara attended basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and was then sent to Camp Pendleton, California, 1st Marine Division, where he attended Infantry Training School; and

WHEREAS, Upon completion of Infantry Training School, Gene McNamara was deployed to Camp Hansen, Okinawa, 3rd Marine Division, in February of 1975, and assigned to the 1st Battalion 4th Marines, Delta Company 2nd Platoon; and

WHEREAS, While he was stationed overseas, Gene McNamara was assigned to USS Blue Ridge for special refugee evacuation operations off the coast of Vietnam in April 1975; following the evacuation, he was deployed to assist in the recovery operation of the SS Mayaguez, which

was to be the last combat mission in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, After serving overseas, Gene McNamara returned to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, 2nd Marine Division, and finished his tour of duty with the 3rd Battalion 6th Marines; and

WHEREAS, After being honorably discharged as a Lance/Corporal from the Marine Corps, Gene McNamara returned home where he worked as a laborer for a few years, found employment with the post office in 1979, and later worked for the New York Police Department where he retired as a Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Gene McNamara earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Police Science from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and has since returned to the Federal work force where he currently works for the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Security Management Unit; and

WHEREAS, Gene McNamara is the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his bravery and sacrifice during his service including Commanding Generals Certificate of Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with one Bronze Star, and Humanitarian Service Medal with a Bronze Numeral "2"; and

WHEREAS, Today, Gene McNamara is a devoted member of the Whitestone American Legion Post No. 131, and the Whitestone VFW Post No. 4787 where he holds the position of Junior Vice President; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his three beautiful daughters, 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, Gene McNamara 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 Gene McNamara 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 Gene McNamara.