

2015-J42

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Charles M. Odell upon the occasion of his selection as a member of the Owasco Veterans Roll of Honor

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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Charles M. Odell upon the occasion of his selection as a member of the Owasco Veterans Roll of Honor; 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, Charles M. Odell honorably served as private first class in the United States Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, On New Year's Eve 1943, Charles M. Odell married Lois Lowery at Calvary Presbyterian Church; in May of that year, just a few months after their marriage, he was stationed at Fort Niagara, New York in training; and

WHEREAS, Charles M. Odell's valiant service to our nation brought him overseas to Normandy, Rhineland, northern France, central Europe, and finally, Ardennes during the tumultuous Battle of the Bulge; during his time in France, he helped to close the liberation of Paris; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, exceptional circumstances during battle placed

Charles M. Odell in charge of the supply of 105 machine guns mounted on carriers whose purpose was to destroy the opposition's tanks; and WHEREAS, For his extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States, Charles M. Odell received the auspicious European Theater Ribbon with five stars; and WHEREAS, In addition, he is the proud recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one silver star, Honorable Service Lapel Button, and the Sharpshooter Badge with auto rifle bar, rifle bar and submachine gun bar; and

WHEREAS, On November 1, 1945, Charles M. Odell returned to the United States and built a home on Melrose Road in Auburn, New York; for more than two decades he was a stalwart member of the National Guard, marching in every parade for those 23 years, proudly carrying the American Flag; and

WHEREAS, Today, Charles M. Odell is 100 years old and resides at the Finger Lakes Center for Living in Auburn, New York; 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, Charles M. Odell has demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore the highest respect of this state and nation; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is very pleased to have this opportunity to express its gratitude to the men and women of the United States

Armed Forces for their tremendous sacrifices made for our nation and for the benefit of all Americans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Charles M. Odell upon the occasion of his selection as a member of

the Owasco Veterans Roll of Honor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Charles M. Odell.