2015-J783

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Emma Detlefsen for her outstanding advocacy, support, and fundraising efforts for lymphedema awareness

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of organizations and individuals committed to helping to improve the lives of others; and WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding tradition, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Emma Detlefsen for her outstanding advocacy, support, and fundraising efforts for lymphedema awareness, in conjunction with the observance of National Lymphedema Awareness Day on March 6, 2015; and WHEREAS, In spite of her young age, six year-old Emma Detlefsen, who has suffered with lymphedema since birth, has been a tireless advocate for lymphatic disease awareness, education, and research; and WHEREAS, National Lymphedema Awareness Day brings awareness to this often debilitating condition and helps find strength through collective celebration and is also set aside to honor inspirational Lymphedema patients and advocates; and

WHEREAS, Emma Detlefsen began her fundraising and awareness efforts at the young age of 6, when she and her family and friends formed a fundraising team, Emma's Incredibles, for the 2014 Walk for Lymphedema & Lymphatic Diseases; this strong and courageous young girl and her team exceeded their fundraising goals; and

WHEREAS, Emma Detlefsen's family and friends have devoted themselves to this cause, including wearing super hero capes at Emma's request to the 2014 Walk for Lymphedema & Lymphatic Diseases, which took them and hundreds of supporters across the Brooklyn Bridge; and WHEREAS, Emma Detlefsen has worked tirelessly despite significant

health issues, including having had multiple hospitalizations; and WHEREAS, Emma Detlefsen continues to be a positive role model for all lymphedema patients and especially young lymphedema patients; and WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Emma Detlefsen for her outstanding advocacy and promotion of lymphedema awareness, in conjunction with the observance of National Lymphedema Awareness Day on March 6, 2015; and be it further RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Emma Detlefsen and to the Lymphatic Education & Research Network.