

## 2015-J2359

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 30th Anniversary of Vietnam Veterans of America, Orange County Chapter 140

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commend and support the purposeful cause of the Vietnam Veterans of America, recognizing its long and sustained commitment to the principles of democracy and freedom so revered by this State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Vietnam Veterans of America, Orange County Chapter 140 in Middletown, New York; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1978, Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the only national Vietnam veterans organization congressionally chartered and exclusively dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, The VVA's main goals are to promote and support the full range of issues important to Vietnam veterans, to create a new identity for this generation of former service members, and to change public perception of Vietnam veterans; and

WHEREAS, On April 17, 1985, VVA Orange County Chapter 140 received its Certification of Incorporation after meeting the requirements to form their own local chapter in Middletown, New York; and

WHEREAS, For the past three decades, the members of this esteemed veterans organization have provided outstanding service to the community through participation in such local projects and events as informative visits to area schools, and numerous efforts to raise awareness of issues affecting Vietnam War veterans; and

WHEREAS, Members of VVA Orange County Chapter 140 have participated in the dedication of the Three Soldiers Statue in Washington, D.C., the

Welcome Home Parade in New York City, and the 1986 Chicago Parade; in addition, members place a memorial wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington each Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, VVA Orange County Chapter 140 has also accomplished many special achievements and projects including the dedication of the Orange County Veterans Memorial in Newburgh, the dedication of the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials in Port Jervis, and the dedication of a monument honoring veterans of the War on Terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Active in the community, VVA Orange County Chapter 140 has held numerous fundraisers for such worthy causes as 2 Chapter Scholarships, the Little League Special Olympics Team, Orange County Food Pantry, Marine Corps Toys for Tots, and Adopt-A-Platoon; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, VVA Orange County Chapter 140 has been a leader throughout the years in promoting the use of the POW/MIA flag, along with the Stars and Stripes, honoring their solemn pledge to "Never Forget"; and

WHEREAS, The occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the founding of VVA Orange County Chapter 140 is a time to pause and reflect on the organization's history of paying reverent tribute to the men and women who served their country in defense of its ideals of democracy and freedom; and

WHEREAS, VVA Orange County Chapter 140 continues to uphold this proud tradition, accomplishing its mission and performing its good deeds in a spirit of comradeship true to the highest traditions of the Vietnam Veterans of America; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the devoted leadership of the Post's outstanding Commanders, both present and past, and the absolute commitment of its many proud members, noting

the role played by this exceptional organization and recognizing the significance of the contributions and sacrifices of the membership of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Orange County Chapter 140; now, there-

fore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the founding of Vietnam Veterans of America, Orange County Chapter 140; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Orange County Chapter 140, Middletown, New York.