

2015-J2448

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Joseph J. Cullen posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Joseph J. Cullen posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate, to be presented at this year's August Rensselaer County Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Both an Airplane and Engine Mechanic, Joseph J. Cullen was awarded the American Service Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Philippines Liberation Medal and the World War II Victory Medal; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of Hoosick Falls, New York, Joseph J. Cullen attended both St. Mary's Academy and Hoosick Falls High School; and

WHEREAS, Joseph J. Cullen was employed at the Wood Flong Corporation, and the Hoosick Falls Community Center for 35 years; in addition, he

worked two part-time jobs at OTB and the Village Liquor Store well into his mid-80s; and

WHEREAS, Joseph J. Cullen enjoyed watching horse racing, and was a Notre Dame Football fan; he assisted with Little League and the SMA Booster Club; in addition, he was a member of several organizations including the Derby Club, Elks Club, and St. Mary's Alumni, as well as the United Paperworkers International Union Local No. 1392; and

WHEREAS, Joseph J. Cullen served his country with honor and distinction from May 15, 1942 through December 15, 1945, as a member of the United States Army; he died in 2015, at the age of 97; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his parents, Thomas and Anne Cullen, Joseph J. Cullen was the loving husband of his wife, Delight; the devoted father of three children, Elizabeth (Betse), Kevin, and Mary Patricia; and the cherished grandfather of five grandchildren, Caleb, Kady, Kallyn, Conner and Payton; and the beloved brother of four sisters, Mary, Anna, Katherine, and Margaret; as well as three brothers, John, Thomas, and Louis, all of whom felt privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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, Joseph J. Cullen 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 Joseph J. Cullen posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Joseph J. Cullen.