

2015-J2652

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Peter Francis O'Brien 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 Peter Francis O'Brien 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

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, In 1944, Peter Francis O'Brien enlisted in the Naval Reserves, and completed his basic training at the Naval Training Station, Sampson, New York; he went on to attend the Basic Engineering and Diesel School for 13 weeks in Gulfport, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, After successfully completing his training, Peter Francis O'Brien was assigned to the Temporary Training Assigned Duty Center (TADCEN), Shoemaker, California; in this capacity, he maintained both landing and small craft engines, assisted with repairs to the USS Kidd (DD-661), and was assigned to the minesweeper USS YMS-200 to clear mines near Hiroshima and Kure, Japan; and

WHEREAS, On June 15, 1946, Peter Francis O'Brien was honorably discharged from the United States Navy, attaining the rank of Motor Machinist Mate Third Class Petty Officer (MoMM3); and

WHEREAS, Peter Francis O'Brien earned several awards and accolades for his exceptional military service including the Victory Medal, American Theatre Medal, and the Asiatic Pacific Medal; and

WHEREAS, Born in East Jewett, New York, on August 8, 1926, to Thomas and Mary O'Brien, Peter Francis O'Brien attended elementary, middle and high school in the Hunter-Tannersville School District; and

WHEREAS, After his discharge from the military, Peter Francis O'Brien returned to his hometown, and received his high school diploma from Hunter-Tannersville High School; he then furthered his education by attending the Technical Electricity Program at the New York Agricultural and Technical Institute, Canton, New York, earning his degree in 1949; and

WHEREAS, Peter Francis O'Brien was employed as a lead electrician in Windham, New York; after the owner of the company died, Peter bought the business from his widow; and

WHEREAS, In 1953, Peter Francis O'Brien and two other electricians established Alva Electric; unfortunately, his partners passed away, and in 1969, he and his family moved to Maplecrest, New York, where he continues to work in the electrical field; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Joy, their four children, Peter, Jr., Eileen, Michael, and Kathleen, as well as a stepson, Bud, all of whom feel 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, Peter Francis O'Brien 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 Peter Francis O'Brien 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 Peter Francis O'Brien.