



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

## Seward Delivers State Honor To Ulster County Hero

JAMES L. SEWARD February 4, 2015



**ALBANY, 02/04/15 --** State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I – Oneonta) recently presented David Wilhelm of Kerhonkson with a New York State Legislative Resolution honoring his heroic rescue of eight passengers trapped in a van following a motor vehicle accident.

**“David Wilhem’s extraordinary actions saved lives,”** said Senator Seward. **“His fast-thinking and decisive action speaks volumes about his character and moral makeup and also showcased his military training which is ingrained in our veterans.”**

On November 13, 2014, David Wilhelm witnessed an accident involving a van owned by Cerebral Palsy of Ulster County which was carrying seven individuals with disabilities.

Wilhelm freed the driver and passengers from the wreckage and performed first aid on one passenger.

In 2012, Wilhelm spent nine months serving as a platoon leader in the 108th Infantry Division in Afghanistan. He currently holds the rank of staff sergeant in the United States National Guard.

**Senate resolution J351** was adopted on February 3, 2015 and reads in part:

*WHEREAS, Through his spontaneous and heroic actions, David Wilhelm demonstrated his character and his compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his actions, the collective concern of citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without the thought of danger or reward when others are in need; now, therefore, be it*

*RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend David Wilhelm in recognition of his heroic action in rescuing eight passengers trapped in a van following a motor vehicle accident on November 13, 2014; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to David Wilhelm.*

-30-

Photo caption: Senator James L. Seward (right) presents a New York State Legislative Resolution to David Wilhelm. Erin Crowley (left) assistant executive director of program operations with Cerebral Palsy of Ulster County also presented Wilhelm with a special certificate of appreciation.