

2015-J3537

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring John Strucker 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, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of those exemplary citizens, who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, and in doing so, help others to avert life-threatening danger; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor John Strucker 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, During the summer of 2015, John Strucker attended the Pine Bush High School Leadership and Law Academy Summer Enrichment Program, a 15-day course, which focused on leadership and discipline, and taught lessons in government, economics and criminal justice; and

WHEREAS, One of the vital skills that John Strucker learned was how to perform CPR; on a hot Sunday afternoon in July, he put his new skills to the ultimate test by saving his father's life; and

WHEREAS, On that particular day, John Strucker and his father, David, went out to play tennis; after they got home, David Strucker went to lie down; and

WHEREAS, Two hours later, David's wife, Linda Strucker, found him unresponsive; after hearing his mother's cries, John Strucker ran to his parents' bedroom and while Linda called 911, he immediately started chest compressions; and

WHEREAS, The 911 dispatcher instructed John Strucker to get his father on the floor, and after enlisting a neighbor's help, they were able to move him; and

WHEREAS, Completely composed, John Strucker performed CPR on his father; during the excruciatingly long 30 minute wait for the ambulance to arrive, John taught his neighbor how to perform chest compressions; and

WHEREAS, Soon thereafter, other neighbors, relatives and a police officer crowded into the house, with six people eventually helping John Strucker give his father CPR; and

WHEREAS, After arriving at Orange Regional Hospital, David Strucker would remain in the facility for 31 days, the first seven in a medically-induced coma; and

WHEREAS, Now, after being home for a few months, David Strucker is grateful that his son remained focused and used his new found skills to save his life; and

WHEREAS, John Strucker through his spontaneous and heroic actions, demonstrated his character and his compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his actions, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of the State of New York who voluntarily respond when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor John Strucker 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 John Strucker.