

2015-J4167

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Levi Rifenburgh upon the occasion of being named a 2016 Winning Kid by the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York at its 28th Annual Confections in Chocolate Gala

WHEREAS, It is the sense of the Legislative Body that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those young people who devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Levi Rifenburgh upon the occasion of being named a 2016 Winning Kid by the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York, to be celebrated at its 28th Annual Confections in Chocolate Gala on Saturday, March 12, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York works diligently to ensure that people with seizures are able to participate in all life experiences and to prevent, control and cure epilepsy through services, education, advocacy and research; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy affects two percent of the population, and approximately one in 50 children; and

WHEREAS, Each year the Epilepsy Foundation selects children to represent all children with epilepsy in Northeastern New York; "Winning Kids" symbolizes the spirit and courage that all children with epilepsy display in dealing with their seizures; Levi Rifenburgh was chosen because he understands his seizures but does not allow them to slow him down at all; and

WHEREAS, Six year-old Levi Rifenburgh is in the first grade and has Tonic-Clonic seizures; he is an active kid who loves trains and playing outside; and

WHEREAS, Young Levi Rifenburgh has his very own day, Team Levi Day, which is a day he and his family help to explain to many people why he takes medicine and how scary seizures can be; unfortunately, this brave boy suffered a seizure on his last "Team Levi Day" but was very determined to let everyone know he was okay and seizures were not going to ruin his day; and

WHEREAS, Levi Rifenburgh's family is dedicated to not letting epilepsy affect who he is and helping him overcome any challenge that may be present and have raised awareness of epilepsy and the Foundation through their assistance with the Hudson Valley Stroll; and

WHEREAS, As residents of Northeastern New York face the physical, emotional and social uncertainties of epilepsy every day, the Epilepsy Foundation is there to help them become happy, self-confident, productive adults, by offering them, as well as their friends, families and caregivers a variety of programs; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his parents, David and Christine Rifenburgh, both of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, An outstanding role model, Levi Rifenburgh has brought honor to his family, school and community, and may stand with pride in his accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Levi Rifenburgh as a Winning Kid, and to wish him well in all his future endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Levi Rifenburgh upon the occasion of being named a 2016 Winning Kid by the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York at its 28th Annual Confections in Chocolate Gala; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Levi Rifenburgh.