

2015-J5324

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Michael A. Cocca, Sr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor A Veteran Ceremony on May 2, 2016

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; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Michael A. Cocca, Sr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor A Veteran Ceremony on Monday, May 2, 2016, at the Legnard-Curtin American Legion Post 927, Green Island, New York; and

WHEREAS, In June of 1993, a committee was formed by the Albany County Veterans Bureau known as the Albany County Honor-A-Veteran Committee to honor deceased Albany County Veterans who have served their country in time of conflict; the Honor A Veteran Program takes place monthly on the first Monday of each month; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous and dedicated service to his country, Michael A. Cocca, Sr. will be recognized at this year's May Honor A Veteran Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, Born on March 27, 1925, in Green Island, New York, Michael A. Cocca, Sr. served his country as a member of the United States Navy as an Aviation Radio Man from 1943-1946; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his meritorious service, Michael A. Cocca,

Sr. was the recipient of numerous awards and honors, some of which include: Navy Air Medal, Navy Aircrew Badge, Navy Commendation Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign, Medal with 1 Silver Star for the Invasion of Peleliu and Angaur, Leyte Gulf, Luzon and 2nd Battle of the Philippine Sea, WWII Victory Medal, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Philippine Liberation Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars, NYS Conspicuous Service Cross, and NYS Conspicuous Service Star; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his military service, Michael A. Cocca, Sr. earned both a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Metallurgical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI); he then spent his entire career working for General Electric (GE), retiring in the mid-1980s after many years of distinguished service as a Metallurgical Engineer; and

WHEREAS, Michael A. Cocca, Sr. was a member of numerous organizations in his community, including: Legnard-Curtin American Legion Post 927 and the Reverend F.A. Kelley Post No. 38 DAV in Troy, New York; he was also the Vice Chairman of the Green Island Power Authority, a member of the IDA, Building Code Review Board, Zoning Board, Executive Board of the Green Island Senior Citizens and Chairman of the Green Island Senior Housing, LP; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Marian, and their four children, Anthony, Michael, Jr., Joseph, and Christine, all of whom felt privileged to be a part of his life and rejoiced in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Michael A. Cocca, Sr. died on July 4, 2015, at the age of 90; 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 their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their 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 Michael A. Cocca, Sr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor A Veteran Ceremony on May 2, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Marian Cocca.