

2015-K1440

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Tom Galloway upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Veteran of the Year Award by the Oswego City Veterans Council

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, 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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Tom Galloway upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Veteran of the Year Award by the Oswego City Veterans Council on Saturday, June 11, 2016, at the Oswego American Legion, Oswego, New York; and

WHEREAS, The respected Veteran of the Year Award recognizes individuals who have served honorably in the military, as well as those who have contributed to the betterment of their community after being discharged; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 19, Tom Galloway enlisted in the United States Army as a paratrooper and proudly served his country during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, In 1952, Tom Galloway was deployed to Korea, joining up with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team, a commando unit designed to move fast and hit the enemy hard, and which regularly was under fire from heavy artillery; he made it through without a scratch; and

WHEREAS, After joining the Military Police and during his second deployment to Korea, Tom Galloway was involved in a life-changing combat experience on August 19, 1953, which left him with major injuries; he

was treated at the division's M.A.S.H. unit and later received a visit from then-Brigadier General William Westmoreland; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous service during that combat operation, General Westmoreland would recommend Tom Galloway for the Soldier's Medal for Heroism; more than 40 years later, then Governor George Pataki would similarly honor him with the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Tom Galloway's service also earned him the Combat Infantry Badge, Presidential Unit Citation, United Nations Service Ribbon and Good Conduct Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, Following the completion of his military service, Tom Galloway returned to Oswego, and accepted a position as a technology teacher at Oswego High School; in 1965, he entered the real estate and insurance business, and Galloway Real Estate grew from a one-man office to be one of the most prominent real estate firms in Oswego County; and

WHEREAS, Tom Galloway never forgot his former brothers-in-arms; he kept in contact with them and considered them his special family; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Oswego American Legion and VFW for more than 60 years, Tom Galloway has continued to work to keep the memory alive of veterans past and present; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, Tom Galloway along with other Oswego veterans, petitioned the City of Oswego to create a living memorial for veterans and their families; the project became the Trees for Vets Program, which has installed almost 100 trees and bronze plaques along the sidewalks of Bridge Street in Oswego; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Tom Galloway has 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; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Tom Galloway upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Veteran of the Year Award by the Oswego City Veterans Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Tom Galloway.