

2015-J6416

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Beverly McDermott upon the occasion of her 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, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Beverly McDermott upon the occasion of her 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, Born to George and Eleanor Neumann, Beverly McDermott is a descendent of the first English settlers, who signed both the patent for the Dutch colony called Vlissengen, later called Flushing, and the Flushing Remonstrance; and

WHEREAS, Beverly McDermott has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, As a child, Beverly McDermott was always available to lend a hand, from saving animals and birds in jeopardy, to volunteering as a

candy striper at Flushing Hospital, to publishing a neighborhood "news-letter" at the young age of 10; and

WHEREAS, Beverly McDermott also served as a docent at Kingsland School and then went to the Bowne House where she held the position of both docent and gardener; later, she held the title of Director of Education and Director of Docents; and

WHEREAS, For over nine years, Beverly McDermott has served as an EMT with the Flushing Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and worked in the Worthy Pause Thrift Shop and was a member of its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, A true public servant, Beverly McDermott has participated on the Kissena Park Civic Association (KPCA) Board for almost 20 years, and holds the title of Director of the Friends of Kissena Park, where she and Arthur and Rose Farmer maintain a garden that she designed many years ago with the hard work of other members; and

WHEREAS, In response to the attack on 9/11, Beverly McDermott was instrumental in having a Franklinia tree planted in memory of the victims, and served on the committee which raised the Korean War Memorial; and

WHEREAS, As Director of Education at the Van Nostrand Starkins Museum in Roslyn, New York, Beverly McDermott created a "walk in history" program to introduce colonial history to students from pre-school to college level using hands-on artifacts to bring history to life in a more personal way, bringing it right into the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Beverly McDermott has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband of 53 years, Willard, and their two children, Kevin and Karen, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Beverly McDermott has displayed

throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, Individuals such as Beverly McDermott, devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth, are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Beverly McDermott upon the occasion of her 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 Beverly McDermott.