

2015-J6513

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Zachary Cumm 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 State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those young individuals 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, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Zachary Cumm upon the occasion of his designation as a 2016 recipient of the 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, Zachary Cumm, a 12-year-old resident of Baldwinsville, New York, was swimming with his friend on June 2, 2016, around 6:00 pm at the Northwest Family YMCA in Lysander, New York, when he noticed his friend slip below the surface of the water; his friend was going into cardiac arrest and his face was turning blue; and

WHEREAS, Without hesitation, Zachary Cumm swam to the bottom of the pool and started to pull his friend to the surface of the water; with the help of an off-duty trooper who was swimming laps in the pool, Zachary was able to pull his friend out of the water and onto the pool

deck where rescue efforts began; and

WHEREAS, The trooper and a YMCA lifeguard then performed Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and retrieved an automated external defibrillator (AED), while contacting Onondaga County 911; and

WHEREAS, The trooper and lifeguard continued CPR and applied the AED to the victim, while two parents rushed in to assist, one a registered nurse and the other a respiratory therapist; and

WHEREAS, As the Moyer's Corners Fire Department, the Greater Baldwinsville Ambulance Corps, and additional troopers from Lysander arrived on the scene, the boy began to take heavy breaths on his own; subsequently, he was transported to Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse, New York, where he regained consciousness and was listed in stable condition; and

WHEREAS, Zachary Cumm's quick thinking and effective response to a life-threatening emergency helped to save the life of his 12-year-old friend; Zachary's heroic actions and his strong character and compassion for the welfare of others in his community, and across the State of New York, deserve to be commended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Zachary Cumm upon the occasion of his designation as a 2016 recipient of the 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 Zachary Cumm.