

## 2017-J4425

Senate Resolution No. 4425

BY: Senator MURPHY

HONORING Christopher Vega upon the occasion of being awarded the Medal for Valor, New York State's highest military honor

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in acknowledging its esteemed citizens who have distinguished themselves in their community; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega was honored with the Medal for Valor, New York State's highest military honor, on March 14, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega served his country with honor in the United States Marine Corps from 2000 until 2003 and has been a member of the New York Naval Militia since 2016; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega is currently a patrol boat coxswain in the Militia's Emergency Boat Service, serving active duty as the coxswain patrolling the Hudson River off of the Indian Point Power Center; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega is also a member of the New York Police Department and is assigned to the World Trade Center Command - Counter Terrorism Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega was on State Active Duty during the "Bomb

Cyclone" snowstorm on January 4, 2018, when he was first on the scene of a horrific traffic accident; and

WHEREAS, The accident victim was driving a truck and slid off the icy road, crashing into a wall and a utility pole; the utility pole crashed through the windshield and cab of the truck, nearly completely severing the victim's leg and pinning him to the cab; and

WHEREAS, Despite the danger of potentially live wires around the cab, Christopher Vega pulled the metal cab open, cutting his own hands, and safely removed the victim from the wreckage; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega then applied a tourniquet to the upper leg of the victim and held on to him, talking to him about his family to comfort him, while waiting for emergency services to arrive; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Vega demonstrated the true spirit of the prestigious Medal for Valor through his disregard for his own safety, extraordinary gallantry, courage, and valor under blizzard conditions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Christopher Vega upon the occasion of being awarded the Medal for Valor, New York State's highest military honor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Christopher Vega.