

2017-J5134

Senate Resolution No. 5134

BY: Senator HELMING

HONORING Peace Officer Catherine M. Crawford who was killed in the line of duty, and commending her distinguished work and meritorious service

WHEREAS, The quality and sanctity of community life are cherished values, worthy of safeguarding, and this Legislative Body is moved to honor those individuals who serve to preserve and protect such values, lauding particularly their unwavering courage and dedication in the daily performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Peace Officer Catherine M. Crawford who was killed in the line of duty, and commending her distinguished work and meritorious service; and

WHEREAS, Catherine M. was born to the former Beatrice Kemper and Joseph Crombach on July 20, 1948, in Rochester, New York; she grew up in Greece, New York, where she graduated from Charlotte High School in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Catherine then married Dennis R. Morrissey in Rhode Island, and they had a daughter, Kelly Bea; in 1969, the family moved back to Rochester and she became involved with the Catholic Family Center; for several years, she and her husband took care of foster children; and

WHEREAS, After divorcing her husband, Catherine worked at the Hillside Children Center from 1973-1981; on September 16, 1978, she married her second husband, Lawrence J. Crawford; together, the couple had a daughter, Cari Kristen, and a son, Thomas Joseph; and

WHEREAS, On October 4, 1982, Catherine M. Crawford began working part-time in the Jail Bureau of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office; for the next three years, she worked all three shifts rotating through the female housing area, central booking, the visiting area, and occasionally, the male housing areas; and

WHEREAS, Catherine M. Crawford was hired to a full-time position in July of 1985, and two years later, she was assigned to the reception area; in November of 1992, she was promoted to Corporal and was reassigned to the Monroe County Correctional Facility in February of 1993; and

WHEREAS, On March 5, 1995, Corporal Catherine M. Crawford succumbed to her injuries 21 months after breaking up a fight between two inmates at the Correctional Facility; and

WHEREAS, On Tuesday, May 15, 2018, New Yorkers and other Americans will gather together to pay tribute to officers who lost their lives or were injured while they were on the job; according to Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), about 140-160 officers are killed in the line of duty each year, and consequently, their families and co-workers are left to cope with their tragic loss; and

WHEREAS, On this special day, many businesses and community members across the State, especially those who lost family members, friends or colleagues who were local officers, will lower their flags in remembrance of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the Fraternal Order of Police and its Auxiliary organizes a national memorial service on the day, drawing thousands of people from many parts of the United States; the solemn service is followed by the placement of a wreath at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, It is important for each and every citizen of this great Empire State, and the United States of America to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who devote their life's work and purpose to public service; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated public servants who unselfishly devote their lives to the preservation of order and the protection of others are worthy and due full praise for their commitment and noble endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Peace Officer Catherine M. Crawford who was killed in the line of duty, and commending her distinguished work and meritorious service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Peace Officer Catherine M. Crawford.