

2009-J1395

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Michael Lanza upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by GRACE on April 24, 2009

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Michael Lanza upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by GRACE at its annual Gala to be held on Friday, April 24, 2009, at The Excelsior Grand, Staten Island, New York; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Michael Lanza has continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in his unwavering service to his community and GRACE and consequently has been designated for special commendation; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of St. John Villa Academy and Monsignor Farrell High School, Michael Lanza earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from St. John's University; he also graduated from American Academy of McCalister Institute of Funeral Service and is a licensed funeral director in both New Jersey and New York State; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1990s, Michael Lanza joined his father in the operation and management of Colonial Funeral Home, becoming the fourth generation to enter the family business; and

WHEREAS, Despite his busy professional life, Michael Lanza has been actively involved for many years with GRACE, an organization dedicated to serving children and families impacted by Autism Spectrum Disorder; an exemplary leader, he has proudly served as a board member of the

Grace Foundation for the past six years and is currently the chair of the fundraising committee as well as the newly elected Vice Chairman of the Board; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Michael Lanza is actively involved with numerous community organizations such as the Scleroderma Society, Alzheimer's Foundation, Meals on Wheels, Project Hospitality, Eden II and Staten Island Little League; he also serves on Community Board II and is a long time supporter of the NYPD, FDNY and many veterans groups; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Joie, and their two children, Michael and Anthony, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Michael Lanza has displayed throughout his life; 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 the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Michael Lanza upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by GRACE; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Michael Lanza.