

2009-K1082

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Nikola Tesla, posthumously, upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition as a 2010 Inductee of the Long Island Technology Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Nikola Tesla, posthumously, upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition as a 2010 Inductee of the Long Island Technology Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, The objective of the Long Island Technology Hall of Fame (LITHF) is to recognize, honor and preserve the contributions, accomplishments, and dedication of historical figures or current leaders in science or technology who have had, or are having, an impact on Long Island; and

WHEREAS, LITHF adds a critical layer of enlightened philanthropy to Long Island's economic engine; similar to the role played by venture capitalists, the LITHF is an important bridge through which many companies, remembering their humble beginnings, give back to their community; and

WHEREAS, Inductees to the LITHF are selected impartially from among individual nominees submitted by corporate, research, and academic institutions, as well as colleagues, peers, or other personal associates; and

WHEREAS, The LITHF Nomination and Awards Selection Committee then determines the most qualified inductees according to intellectual

acumen, lifetime achievement, overall impact on the advancement of science and technology, national prominence, contributions to Long Island's economic development and commitment to the Long Island community; and

WHEREAS, Nikola Tesla was an inventor and a mechanical and electrical engineer; he was one of the most important contributors to the birth of commercial electricity and is best known for his many revolutionary developments in the field of electromagnetism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; his patents and theoretical work formed the basis of modern alternating current (AC) electric power systems, including the polyphase system of electrical distribution and the AC motor, with which he helped usher in the Second Industrial Revolution; and

WHEREAS, Born on July 10, 1856, an ethnic Serb in the village of Smiljan, Croatian Military Frontier, Austrian Empire (today's Croatia), Nikola Tesla was a subject of the Austrian Empire by birth and later became an American citizen; after his demonstration of wireless communication through radio in 1894 and after being the victor in the "War of Currents", he was widely respected as one of the greatest electrical engineers who worked in America; and

WHEREAS, Much of Nikola Tesla's early work pioneered modern electrical engineering and many of his discoveries were of groundbreaking importance; in the United States, his fame rivaled that of any other inventor or scientist in history or popular culture; he died impoverished in 1943, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, The International System of Units' unit measuring magnetic field B (also referred to as the magnetic flux density and magnetic induction) was named in Nikola Tesla's honor at the Conference Generale des Poids et Mesures, Paris, 1960; and

WHEREAS, Aside from his work on electromagnetism and electromechanical engineering, Nikola Tesla contributed in varying degrees to the establishment of robotics, remote control, radar, and computer science, and

to the expansion of ballistics, nuclear physics, and theoretical physics; in 1943, the Supreme Court of the United States credited him as being the inventor of the radio; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Nikola Tesla, posthumously, upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition as a 2010 Inductee of the Long Island Technology Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Long Island Technology Hall of Fame.