

## 2009-J4328

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Stella Penizotto upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition as recipient of the 2009 Small Business Person of the Year Award by the New York State Small Business Development Center

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

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 honor Stella Penizotto upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition as recipient of the 2009 Small Business Person of the Year Award by the New York State Small Business Development Center; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, Stella Penizotto opened the first Shining Stars Daycare, Inc. facility in East Syracuse, New York; she opened a second location in Manlius, New York, in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Stella Penizotto was awarded a grant from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services in 2006 to assist in building a new state-of-the-art childcare center offering indoor gyms and outdoor playgrounds, as well as a lending library; with this assistance, she opened a new center in Liverpool, New York, that supports the employees of Lockheed Martin, Onondaga County's sixth largest employer; and

WHEREAS, Winner of the 2007 "Contribution to Inclusion" award by Enable, a special needs agency, Stella Penizotto started the first integrated pre-school program for autistic children; prior to the establish-

ment of her program, parents who desired a full day program for their autistic children were required to transport them to Utica and Binghamton each day; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, Stella Penizotto was recognized for her contributions to the community by being named "Economic Champion" by the Onondaga County Chamber of Commerce, as well as being inducted into the New York State Small Business Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, The principals of Shining Stars Daycare, Stella and John Penizotto, have excelled in a challenging industry; they were the New York State Small Business Development Center's Entrepreneur of the Year Award winners in 2001; in their 13 years of business, they have expanded Shining Stars Daycare, Inc. six times to its current capacity for 244 children; the business employs 63 people in all; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Stella Penizotto has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues, family and friends; rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Stella Penizotto has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Stella Penizotto upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition as recipient of the 2009 Small Business Person of the Year

Award by the New York State Small Business Development Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Stella Penizotto.