

2011-J683

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Donald Led Duke posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to honor those distinguished individuals whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Donald Led Duke posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, March 10, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Donald Led Duke founded and chaired the BBL Companies; his contributions to the Capital Region are to be meritoriously honored; and

WHEREAS, Donald Led Duke began his career as a mason; he dreamed of starting his own business and established a small masonry company on a part-time basis and from there he founded a general contracting firm and was one of the very first to embrace the design/build approach for construction projects; in 1983, he merged his firm to create Barry, Bette & Led Duke; and

WHEREAS, This company and its successor, BBL Construction Services, grew under Donald Led Duke's unwavering passion, leadership and wisdom to become one of the largest design/build firms in New York; and

WHEREAS, The presence of Donald Led Duke and BBL can be seen not only in Albany's skyline but in over 20 states throughout the United States; the company completes 50 to 75 jobs a year and is consistently ranked as one of the Top 100 Design/Build firms in the nation by ENGINEERING NEWS RECORD; and

WHEREAS, Donald Led Duke was passionate about the company, its success and the success of his employees; he had a strong presence in the office with a hands on approach and continuously worked toward providing opportunities for the company by building relationships with customers, employees, subcontractors and the community; and

WHEREAS, Having a strong connection to the Capital Region and especially the City of Albany, Donald Led Duke always wanted to give back to the community; he was a charismatic person known for his generosity and was proud to support charitable organizations in the community; he was a man larger than life, admired and respected by all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Among the several projects that were constructed under Donald Led Duke's leadership, the most notable include: the NYS Comptroller's Office; MVP Healthcare Headquarters; CDPHP Headquarters; 677 Broadway; Albany County Family Court; Alfred E. Smith Building renovation; St. Peter's Hospital Patient Tower; New Scotland Avenue Redevelopment; Green Island Park; Columbia Circle; Glens Falls Hospital; Siena College; Empire Commons; and hotels in Saratoga Springs, Troy and Albany; and

WHEREAS, Today, the BBL Family of Companies delivers a wide range of construction projects specializing in design/build, construction management and general contracting; their focus is on commercial, medical, hospitality, educational and government construction projects; BBL's affiliate companies include: BBL Carlton, BBL Medical Facilities, BBL Management, BBL Campus Development and BBL Hospitality; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to society, Donald Led Duke is survived by his wife, Mary Louise, his four sons, Don, Spencer, Scott, and Slade, and eight grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Donald Led Duke leaves

behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Donald Led Duke posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Donald Led Duke.