

2013-J2752

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Bonduelle USA, Inc. upon the occasion of its designation as the recipient of the 2013 Agricultural Business of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce

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 enhanced by the concerned and dedicated efforts of business organizations and individuals that generously contribute 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 congratulate Bonduelle USA, Inc. upon the occasion of its designation as the recipient of the 2013 Agricultural Business of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce; this momentous occasion will be celebrated at the Chamber's Annual Awards Ceremony, to be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014, at the Clarion Hotel; and

WHEREAS, Bonduelle USA, Inc., a French vegetable supplier with locations in Bergen, Oakfield, and Brockport, New York, has become the backbone of international vegetable production in the American market; and

WHEREAS, Bonduelle USA, Inc.'s history in the agricultural business dates back more than 160 years, with frozen, ready to eat vegetables added to the company's portfolio in 1970; the French-based business now maintains 57 production facilities across the United States and Europe, including seven Canadian plants purchased in 2007; and

WHEREAS, The Genesee County Plants of Bergen and Oakfield were purchased in 2012 by Bonduelle, along with a Brockport packaging plant, and a Wisconsin production plant from Allen's Inc.; the two Bergen and Oakfield Plants will produce more than half of the 257 million pounds of

frozen vegetables Bonduelle's American operations are projected to produce in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Bonduelle USA CEO, Daniel Vielfaure, has made outstanding improvements at its Bergen frozen food processing plant, and has plans to grow stateside and provide a steady source of national consumers for local growers; and

WHEREAS, Due to the close proximity of both its year-round packaging facility and the fields where its raw vegetables are grown, Bonduelle USA, Inc. is able to be efficient in both energy use and production; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the majority of the vegetables processed in the Bergen and Oakfield plants are pulled from a 30-mile zone and packaged in Brockport, where Bonduelle's year-round operation produces a wide range of private-label, retail and industrial lines; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to Bonduelle USA, Inc.; 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 congratulate Bonduelle USA, Inc. upon the occasion of its designation as the recipient of the 2013 Agricultural Business of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Daniel Vielfaure, CEO, Bonduelle USA, Inc.