

2013-J2786

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Neil Murphy upon the occasion of his retirement as President of SUNY-ESF

WHEREAS, It is the sense of the State of New York to acknowledge those outstanding individuals within our midst whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of this state; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, it is the sense of the State of New York to recognize that the quality and character in our communities are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who are devoted to the welfare of their communities; one such individual is Dr. Cornelius "Neil" Murphy Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor and recognize Dr. Neil Murphy upon the occasion of his retirement as President of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, known as SUNY-ESF; and

WHEREAS, SUNY-ESF, which was founded in 1911, is one of the most respected colleges in the nation, dedicated to the study of the environment, the development of renewable technologies and the building of a sustainable future; SUNY-ESF currently enrolls 1,700 undergraduate and 550 graduate students and offers more than 50 degree programs; and

WHEREAS, Since becoming the third President of SUNY-ESF in 2000, Dr. Neil Murphy has increased student enrollment, enhanced alternative energy research projects at the college and across the globe, accelerated biomedical research capabilities in Central New York, fostered institutional support from state, federal and local representatives, opened the college's first residential dorm, overhauled the Baker Laboratory building, extended college partnerships with local business leaders, expanded the college's outreach program to various public high schools, and he

was instrumental in opening SUNY-ESF's new Gateway Building, a high-performance facility that provides a centerpiece for campus activities and produces its own power; and

WHEREAS, Under Dr. Neil Murphy's leadership, SUNY-ESF has significantly increased its national and international visibility, earning a spot on the list of top public colleges in the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT; SUNY-ESF was also ranked the 3rd best college in the nation for women in science and engineering by FORBES Magazine; and

WHEREAS, Before his appointment to SUNY-ESF in 2000, Dr. Neil Murphy served as the president and director of O'Brien & Gere Limited, a large design and engineering firm in Syracuse; he joined O'Brien & Gere in 1970 after earning his doctorate from Syracuse University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Neil Murphy has authored 45 technical publications and presentations and has devoted his time to various professional and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, Dr. Neil Murphy was honored as a F.O.C.U.S. 2013 Wisdom Keeper for the positive difference he has made on the Central New York community through his overall commitment to civic trusteeship; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Neil Murphy has consistently rendered conscientious and valuable service to the students, faculty and staff at SUNY-ESF and to the entire Central New York community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause to hereby honor and recognize Dr. Neil Murphy upon the occasion of his retirement as President of SUNY-ESF; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Neil Murphy.