

2013-K777

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the establishment of the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation in Chemung County

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor those businesses within the State of New York which distinguish themselves through outstanding professional behavior, corporate innovation, and enduring commitment to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is pleased to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the establishment of the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation in Chemung County; to mark this significant milestone, a special event will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2014, at the National Soaring Museum in Elmira, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Schweizer brothers, Ernest, Paul and William, established the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation in Chemung County in 1939; and

WHEREAS, Schweizer gliders trained many of the pilots who flew troop gliders in the D-Day Invasion and in later battles in Europe, making an important contribution to the combat success of the United States Army, and America's victory in World War II; examples of those gliders continue to fly today; and

WHEREAS, As Elmira became the Soaring Capitol of America in the mid-20th century, the Schweizers designed and built the most significant line of gliders in American history; it is undoubtedly true that more American glider pilots have been and are being trained in Schweizer gliders than in any other such aircraft; and

WHEREAS, In addition to manufacturing their renowned line of gliders, the Schweizers and their company solidly supported the growth of American commercial and military aviation through contracting relationships with firms like Boeing, Fairchild and Grumman; and

WHEREAS, Schweizer gliders carried American pilots to success in national and international competitions; included among those pilots is Paul Schweizer, whose skills as a pilot and efforts as a champion of American gliding rightly earn him the title of "The Soul of American Gliding"; and

WHEREAS, Schweizer gliders, skillfully designed and engineered under the overall leadership of Ernest Schweizer, continue to maintain their reputation as rugged, reliable, safe gliders and continue as the gliders of choice to introduce new generations of pilots to this wonderful sport; and

WHEREAS, The Schweizer name, carried with pride by William Schweizer, the surviving member of this pioneering band of brothers, and by succeeding generations of the family, has always stood for ethical business practices, civic pride, community spirit and philanthropy of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, The Schweizer Aircraft Corporation has supported Chemung County and the surrounding area by providing safe, stable and well-paying jobs to thousands of employees over the years; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation's accomplishments, recognizes its many contributions to the local and State economies, and extends its highest commendation to the corporation and its employees, fully confident that, in its future, it will enjoy the same success which has so characterized its past; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the establishment of the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation in Chemung County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to William Schweizer, Schweizer Aircraft Corporation.