

## 2013-J3328

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter, United States Navy, Retired, upon the occasion of being honored in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those women of achievement within the Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who inspire others through their model citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter, United States Navy, Retired, upon the occasion of being honored in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made invaluable contributions to the growth and strength of New York State in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the State of New York officially sets aside time to recognize the achievements and lives of these exemplary women, representatives of the wide-ranging and vital roles women have played in the historic development of this great Empire State and its communities; the theme of this year's commemoration is "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment"; and

WHEREAS, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter, USN, Retired, is the 10th president of SUNY Maritime College, and the first woman to serve as president of the college; throughout her illustrious and varied career, she has consistently epitomized the values of character, courage, and commitment in her unwavering service to her peers, colleagues, and fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter served in the United States Navy

with honor and distinction for 34 years; among the pioneers of women in Naval Aviation, she was the 31st woman to be designated a Naval Aviator, and was the United States Navy's first woman aviator to attain the rank of rear admiral; and

WHEREAS, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology from the University of Georgia in 1976, holds a Master of Arts in International Business Relations from Salve Regina University, and is a distinguished graduate of the United States Naval War College; she entered the United States Navy in 1977 through Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, and was commissioned in 1978; and

WHEREAS, During her distinguished naval career, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter deployed throughout the Pacific, the western United States, and Alaska, flying the EC-130 Hercules, and operating VIP aircraft, accumulating more than 3500 military flight hours; and

WHEREAS, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter held several key executive officer and deputy positions, and, in addition, commanded a total of five times at the Commander, Captain and Flag level in the areas of logistics, training and aviation in fleet, joint and coalition operations; she was promoted to Flag rank in March 2005, and her final Navy assignment was as Commander, Navy Warfare Development Command where she and her team worked to deliver operational capability for Navy, joint and coalition forces; and

WHEREAS, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter has served as President of SUNY Maritime College since August 31, 2011, and during her tenure, the college has received significant national and international recognition; it has a nationally ranked engineering program, a top five ranking in Payscale.com's College Return on Investment Report, continuing all-time

high student enrollment, increased graduation rates, and dramatically increased first year student retention rates; in addition, the college has garnered considerable resources in the form of grants, major donors,

and community and government partnerships; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her service to her community, the State of New York, and the nation, Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter, USN, Retired, upon the occasion of being honored in conjunction with Women's History Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter, USN, Retired.