

## 2013-J3225

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Syracuse Housing Authority

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those organizations within our community, and to those who run them, that add to the quality of life for all of our residents, and to recognize the contributions such organizations make to our society; and

WHEREAS, Primary among those organizations are public benefit corporations that, year after year, are responsive to the specific needs of the local citizenry by providing essential services such as affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Syracuse Housing Authority; and

WHEREAS, In honor of this auspicious milestone, a celebration will be held on April 4, 2014, at the Nicholas J. Pirro Convention Center in Syracuse, New York, where outstanding service awards will be presented to former Congressman James Walsh, former Syracuse Housing Authority Executive Director Fred Murphy, and current resident and Board Commissioner and Family Residential Representative, Gladys Smith; and

WHEREAS, The Syracuse Housing Authority was established as a Public Benefit Corporation by the City of Syracuse Common Council on October 19, 1935; and

WHEREAS, The first public housing development project was Pioneer Homes, which opened for service on August 31, 1940; and

WHEREAS, For the past 75 years, the Syracuse Housing Authority has not only provided residents with safe and affordable housing, but has assisted these residents in building better lives; and

WHEREAS, The Syracuse Housing Authority also provides numerous activ-

ities and educational opportunities, including economic self-sufficiency education, matching residents with supportive services, job training and skill enhancement opportunities, resident-based activities for seniors, youth programming, social work services, and partnerships with community health, support, and educational agencies to provide enhanced assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Syracuse Housing Authority has continued to grow and evolve over the years; currently, through its public housing and affordable housing developments, it provides housing to nearly 5,300 individuals, through Section 8, it provides over 7,600 individuals with assistance; and

WHEREAS, The 155 dedicated current employees of the Syracuse Housing Authority deserve recognition for the hard work and dedication they demonstrate in helping area residents with housing and supportive services; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize the Syracuse Housing Authority upon the occasion of its 75th Anniversary, with the hope this corporation continues to enjoy the successes it has experienced thus far; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Bill Simmons, Executive Director of Syracuse Housing Authority.