

2013-J3603

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of John R. Williams, Amityville Schools Superintendent, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, John R. Williams of Scranton, Pennsylvania, died on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at the age of 68; and

WHEREAS, Born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on October 15, 1945, John R. Williams was the son of the late Albert M. and Elizabeth Wallace Williams; and

WHEREAS, A 1963 graduate of Scranton Preparatory School, John R. Williams earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Scranton before obtaining his Education degree from Lehigh University; and

WHEREAS, John R. Williams began his illustrious career of 37 years in the Scranton School District as a teacher at James Lowell Elementary School; after becoming House Captain at West Scranton Intermediate School, he served as Principal of James Monroe, John Whittier and George Bancroft schools; furthermore, after working as the Director of Elementary Education in the Scranton School District, he was ultimately appointed Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his retirement, John R. Williams served as Superintendent of both the Sewanhaka Central High School District, and the Amityville School District, both on Long Island; and

WHEREAS, As Amityville Schools Superintendent, John R. Williams's leadership helped guide all of Amityville's schools off the state's

"need improvement" lists; and

WHEREAS, John R. Williams distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, John R. Williams was a member of St. Paul's Catholic Church in Scranton, as well as countless committees, civic organizations and clubs; he also took great pride as a member of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, where he had previously served as President; and

WHEREAS, John R. Williams's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by two brothers, Keith Williams and David Williams, John R. Williams is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Dr. Rita Cusick Williams, and his son, John R. (Sherry) Williams, Jr.; two brothers, C. Randolph Williams and Andrew (Catherine) Williams; and one granddaughter, Isabella Fanucci; as well as several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, John R. Williams leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of John R. Williams, Amityville Schools Superintendent, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of John R. Williams.