

2013-J3708

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Oren Lyons upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 F.O.C.U.S. Wisdom Keeper Award on April 2, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Oren Lyons upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 F.O.C.U.S. Wisdom Keeper Award on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, at the Nicholas J. Pirro Convention Center at Oncenter, Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Wisdom Keeper Award recognizes community leaders who have enriched the community with their wisdom, perseverance and passion, and who honor and respect the teachings of the people of the Onondaga Nation; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Oren Lyons has continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence, and diligent leadership in his unwavering service to the Syracuse community and subsequently has been selected for this most prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, Oren Lyons, Faithkeeper of the Turtle Clan, Onondaga Nation Council of Chiefs, Haudenosaunee, has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless endeavors on behalf of F.O.C.U.S. and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his 83 years, Oren Lyons has committed a lifetime to leaving a better world for future generations, and to sharing the values and teachings he has received from his elders and the Earth; and

WHEREAS, Oren Lyons teaches, through his own example, to learn from, honor, and care for the Earth and all of its peoples; he regularly reaches out, sharing his wisdom, and offering solutions to individual, community and global problems; and

WHEREAS, An avid volunteer and community leader, Oren Lyons actively participates in the Indigenous Peoples of the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations at the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he is co-founder and serves as Chair of the Board for Plantagon, and serves on the Executive Committee of the Global Forum of Spiritual and Parliamentary Leaders on Human Survival; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Oren Lyons received Sweden's prestigious World's Children's Prize, and the George Arents Award for Excellence in Social and Environmental Activism; he was elected into the Lacrosse Hall of Fame, and named a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor and Professor Emeritus of American Indian Studies; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Oren Lyons received an honorary Doctor of Law degree from Syracuse University, as well as a residence hall, Lyons Hall, named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Oren Lyons has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Oren Lyons has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the

recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

honor Oren Lyons upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 F.O.C.U.S. Wisdom Keeper Award on April 2, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Oren Lyons.