

2013-J3729

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the 15th Anniversary of On Point for College and honoring founder, Ginny Donohue, for special recognition

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in accordance with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend On Point for College upon the occasion of celebrating its 15th Anniversary and to commend its founder, Ginny Donohue, for special recognition; and

WHEREAS, On Point for College Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to open the door to higher education for inner city youth; it seeks to break down the barriers that hinder potential students from entering college, and provide support, empowering them to succeed; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1999, Ginny Donohue, gave up her career in the corporate world to start On Point for College, devoting her time and energy to the educational success of inner-city youth; and

WHEREAS, In the beginning, she operated out of the trunk of her car in reaching out to the under-privileged; as the program reached more students, it attracted the attention of donors and volunteers, and grew to become the esteemed foundation it is today; and

WHEREAS, On Point for College now includes 22 full-time employees and 180 volunteers; they have helped more than 5,000 disadvantaged young people become the first in their families to attend university; due to its vital efforts, 2,254 students are currently enrolled in college at this moment; and

WHEREAS, This illustrious organization is dedicated to making higher education accessible to low-income youth who have the desire and will to

continue their education, but who feel college is out of reach due to economic, academic and other barriers; and

WHEREAS, On Point for College performs many necessary services including one-on-one counseling on choosing a school, finding financial aid, and help with college applications; they take students on tours of universities and provide orientation workshops before their first day; they also provide transportation services to and from college for major holidays and semester breaks; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this remarkable program follows up with advocacy on issues affecting its students and provides support when school is out of session; during the summer free housing is arranged for students who do not have a place to live; On Point for Jobs, an additional program, helps college graduates make the transition to the workforce; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, Ginny Donohue was one of five finalists for the national Ben & Jerry's Citizen Cool Award and was featured in their movie, "The Difference"; she was the recipient of the Spirit of Lantern Award and has been recognized by TRADITIONAL HOME magazine; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 celebrate the 15th Anniversary of On Point for College and honoring founder, Ginny Donohue, for special recognition; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ginny Donohue, Founder, On Point for College.