

## 2013-K894

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Joel Shufro upon the occasion of his retirement after 34 years of distinguished service to the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who demonstrate great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Joel Shufro upon the occasion of his retirement after 34 years of distinguished service to the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health; and

WHEREAS, Joel Shufro began working for the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH) in 1980; he quickly became a leader in occupational safety and health in New York City, New York State, and nationally through his work with the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (NCOSH); and

WHEREAS, As Executive Director of NYCOSH, Joel Shufro has been on the forefront of the health and safety movement both locally and nationally for more than three decades; he advocated for workers, local unions and all who struggle for safer and healthier jobs, truly giving a voice to these workers and their unions; and

WHEREAS, New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health began with a staff of one in 1976; Joel Shufro has been instrumental in build-

ing NYCOSH into an organization with a significantly larger staff, as well as a membership of 200 local unions and 300 individuals; and

WHEREAS, Under the direction of Joel Shufro, NYCOSH has spearheaded initiatives aimed at reaching vulnerable workers including both young workers and those exposed to toxic chemicals; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he initiated efforts to make occupational safety and health an integral part of emergency response, continued the fight to improve New York's workers' compensation system, and launched a major campaign to inform people suffering health effects from the events of 9/11 of their right to medical benefits; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Joel Shufro has fought tirelessly against employers who have placed profit before human health, and has been a true advocate for safer, healthier workplaces for all; and

WHEREAS, An avid volunteer, Joel Shufro has served on the advisory board at the Mt. Sinai-Irving J. Selikoff Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine, the Bellevue/NYU Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic, the World Trade Center Worker and Volunteer Medical Screening and Treatment Program, and the New Jersey-New York Hazardous Waste Consortium; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he served as a representative of the New York City Council on the New York City Right to Know/Hazardous Substance Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Joel Shufro has been the proud recipient of several auspicious awards and accolades some of which include, the Stand Up for Justice Award by the Young Korean American Service and Education Center, the Lorin Kerr Award by the Occupational Health Section of the American Public Health Association, and the Man of the Year Award by the Advisory Board of Mt. Sinai Occupational and Environmental Health Clinic; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, leadership, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by Joel Shufro over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to

others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, 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 Joel Shufro upon the occasion of his retirement after 34 years of distinguished service to New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joel Shufro.