

## 2013-J3965

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Minor League Baseball in the Greater Binghamton Area

WHEREAS, Baseball, one of those most beloved of American institutions, has throughout its history contributed greatly to the development of civic pride and integrity in the communities across this great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Minor League Baseball in the Greater Binghamton area; and

WHEREAS, The sport of baseball has long been a staple for generations of residents living in the City of Binghamton and its surrounding towns; it has become a part of the fabric of community life in this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, The region's very first baseball team was the Binghamton Crickets, which played in the International Association in 1877, only one year after the National League was formed; since that inaugural team, numerous others have followed, going by such monikers as the Bingos, Triplets and present day Binghamton Mets; and

WHEREAS, The 2014 season marks the 100th Anniversary since the beginning of official minor league baseball in the region; it is also the 65th Anniversary of its affiliation with either the New York Yankees or New York Mets; and

WHEREAS, Over 700 players who have played in Greater Binghamton have gone on to make their mark in the major leagues; and

WHEREAS, As part of this auspicious occasion, the Binghamton Baseball Shrine will be the subject of an upcoming book; it currently has 61 members in its Hall of Fame, including such exemplary players as "Wee Willie" Keeler, Johnny Logan, and Yankees great, Whitey Ford; and

WHEREAS, Noted business and community leader George F. Johnson will also be honored posthumously for the instrumental role he played in the success of minor league baseball in the area; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, the Binghamton Mets will be holding multiple events to celebrate the 100th Anniversary and to thank its fans for their loyal and enthusiastic support; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of minor league baseball's rich history and enduring contribution to the heritage of the Greater Binghamton area and the State of New York, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to join in the celebration of the 100th Anniversary so that present and future generations may come to appreciate the unique significance which its history plays in the progression of our State and Nation's evolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Minor League Baseball in the Greater Binghamton Area; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Binghamton Mets baseball team.