

2013-J3999

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Edward A. Diana upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award by Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County on April 3, 2014

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Edward A. Diana has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Edward A. Diana upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award by Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County, to be celebrated at the 2014 Caritas Awards, 8th Annual Celebration of Charity on Thursday, April 3, 2014, at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor, New York; and

WHEREAS, Retired Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana is a lifelong resident of Orange County, born and raised in Middletown, New York; he is a graduate of Orange County Community College, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Connecticut State University, as well as a Master's in Education from Ithaca College; and

WHEREAS, Edward A. Diana was elected County Executive in 2001, and served with distinction for three terms; prior to that, he served 12 years as a County Legislator and for six years, held the position as County Majority Leader; he also served as a Councilman and Deputy Supervisor in the Town of Wallkill during the 1980s; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as County Executive, Edward A. Diana was instrumental in the opening of a state-of-the-art Emergency Services Complex in Goshen; the center is home to one of the most sophisticated

and technologically advanced E-911 and Emergency Operations Centers in the nation and has scored high marks from the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and

WHEREAS, For more than three decades, Edward A. Diana worked as an educator, physical education instructor, and coach in the Minisink Valley School District; during this time, he owned and operated the downtown Middletown restaurant, Diana's, established in 1936 by his parents and grandparents; and

WHEREAS, Edward A. Diana has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, An avid volunteer, Edward A. Diana has been a member and supporter of numerous civic organizations; he was named to the Board of Trustees of the Orange County Citizens Foundation, and has served on the boards of the Sons of Italy, the Middletown Elks, UNICO, and the Goshen Historic Track; and

WHEREAS, Edward A. Diana has received countless awards and accolades for his efforts and leadership by organizations throughout the Hudson Valley some of which include: Orange County Chamber of Commerce President's Award, United Way Spirit of Caring Award, Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center's Pillar of the Community, Occupations' Heart of Gold, the Mental Health Associations Silver Bell Award, and the New York State SUNY Community College Alumni of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Edward A. Diana was presented with the key to his hometown, the City of Middletown, in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Edward A. Diana has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Mary, and their daughters, Lindsay and Danielle, as well as their grandchildren, Ava and Marc, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice

in his achievements; and

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

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals 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 honor Edward A. Diana upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award by Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County on April 3, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Edward A. Diana.