

2013-J4221

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Pamela Nichols upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of The Heart of Business Award, to be celebrated at the Stakeholders' 2014 GOBY Awards Ceremony on April 23, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to the dedicated efforts of those individuals and organizations from across the State of New York who volunteer their time and energies in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Pamela Nichols upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of The Heart of Business Award to be celebrated at the Stakeholders' 2014 GOBY Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 23, 2014, at the GE Theatre at Proctors, Schenectady, New York; and

WHEREAS, The GOBY Awards (Get on Board Volunteer Awards) recognize companies, organizations and individuals who have provided exemplary volunteer services in New York's Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Fordham University and Albany Law School, Pamela Nichols is a personal injury attorney and managing partner of the Albany law firm O'Connell and Aronowitz; her practice focuses on representing individuals, and especially young children, in complex personal injury, professional negligence and product liability cases; and

WHEREAS, A driving force in obtaining many significant verdicts and settlements in difficult cases involving the negligent care and treatment of abused children, Pamela Nichols is a stalwart defender of the rights of young people and their families; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman's commitment to enhancing her community

is exemplified in her participation with The Injury Board, an organization of personal injury attorneys who volunteer their time and energies helping people avoid harm and making sure injured persons receive the assistance they need; her efforts as part of this group have laid the ground work for a novel prevention program aimed at teenagers; and WHEREAS, In 2012, Pamela Nichols joined forces with The Casey Feldman Foundation and EndDD.org to take part in the National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, an initiative to help keep high school students safe on the road; her presentations in local schools received such a positive response that the program was expanded to the full academic year; and WHEREAS, Thanks to Pamela Nichols and the tremendous contributions of her eight staff attorneys at O'Connell and Aronowitz, EndDD presentations have been given to 4,700 students in a 10 county area of Upstate New York; furthermore, many local libraries now host this vital program for the benefit of adults in the community; and WHEREAS, In addition, the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the New York State Partnership for Teen Driving Safety have chosen to detail Pamela Nichols' work for other statewide programs which seek to maintain the health and safety of teenagers in the Empire State; and WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband and two daughters, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and WHEREAS, Volunteerism promotes family and community solidarity; most importantly, people who give of their time in civic and charitable endeavors inspire others to the call of volunteerism; and WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 Pamela Nichols upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of The Heart of Business Award; and be it further
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Pamela Nichols.