

2013-J4396

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Donald J. Snyder upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 20 years of distinguished service to the Herkimer County Community College Board of Trustees

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Donald J. Snyder upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 20 years of distinguished service to the Herkimer County Community College Board of Trustees; the Donald J. Snyder Corridor, also known as "Don's Way," was dedicated in recognition of his contributions on Wednesday, July 10, 2013, at the HCCC Library Building Foyer, Herkimer, New York; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Siena College and Albany Law School, Donald J. Snyder has throughout his life, rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service to the people of Herkimer County, earning the admiration, esteem and affection of all he came in contact with; and

WHEREAS, In 1966, Donald J. Snyder began his long career as an attorney with the law firm Cosentino, Snyder, and Snyder (later Quinn); one of this young lawyer's first assignments involved reviewing land records for the founding of a new school for higher learning that would become Herkimer County Community College (HCCC); his relationship with the school would strengthen and endure over the coming years; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, Donald J. Snyder was appointed to the HCCC Board of Trustees on which he served honorably and with passion for over 22 years, 12 as chairman of the board; and

WHEREAS, Under his dedicated leadership, this fine educational insti-

tution flourished as it entered the 21st Century; his work helped guide the board and HCCC administration in the establishment of policies, authorization of new academic programs, the creation of a new strategic plan as well as through a successful Middle States accreditation; and WHEREAS, Donald J. Snyder inaugurated numerous building projects during his tenure including: Wehrum Stadium, the Hummel Corporate and Professional Education Center, Reservoir Run, and the Center for Global Learning; his efforts were also pivotal in the renovation of the Robert McLaughlin College Center, the Ronald F. Williams Library and the Gaynor Science Center; and

WHEREAS, An outstanding representative of HCCC at community functions and school events, Donald J. Snyder was a regular speaker at convocations, commencements, campus meetings, dedications and numerous other occasions; in his commitment to lifelong learning he became a student himself, earning an associate's degree in Fine Arts in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Donald J. Snyder has received many accolades in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the board; he was twice honored by the New York Community College Trustees, and received the Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service; in 2012, he was presented with the Anne M. Bushnell Memorial Award for Special Achievement, honoring his extraordinary leadership and achievement throughout his term of service; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his work on the HCCC Board of Trustees and in his law practice, this esteemed man served the people of Herkimer County in a variety of other capacities; he was assistant district attorney from 1966-1978 and senior attorney for Family Court Judge Henry LaRaia from 1991-2002; furthermore, he also served as lawyer for the Town of Winfield, the Village of West Winfield, and the Mount Markham Central

School, where he was also president of the school board from 1970-71; and

WHEREAS, Donald J. Snyder has been called upon to contribute his time

and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; he is a member of numerous non-profit organizations including the Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York and the Mohawk Valley Estate Planning Council; furthermore, he is the Lead Counsel for Our Lady of Lourdes Charitable Trust and has served as parish council president, finance chairman and building committee chairman; and WHEREAS, In his capacity as chairman of the HCCC Board of Trustees and countless other roles, Donald J. Snyder served with loyalty, honor and distinction, always governed by a keen sense of duty in his official acts; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals who have displayed such exceptional leadership, inspired vision and outstanding professional standards are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Donald J. Snyder upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 20 years of distinguished service to the Herkimer County Community College Board of Trustees; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Donald J. Snyder.