

## 2013-J4524

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Garry J. Kearns upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Third Age Achievement Award in Volunteerism by Senior Services of Albany

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, Garry J. Kearns has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special recognition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Garry J. Kearns upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Third Age Achievement Award in Volunteerism by Senior Services of Albany, to be celebrated at its 18th Annual Third Age Achievement Awards luncheon on Friday, May 2, 2014, at Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Architect Garry Kearns provides quality, safe and affordable housing that allows seniors in the Capital Region to age in place and, in most cases, allows them to stay in and around the neighborhoods in which they raised their families; and

WHEREAS, Garry J. Kearns designed thousands of apartments before his retirement in the early 1990s; in 1995 he founded the American Housing Foundation where he has served as its unpaid Executive Director for the past 17 years; and

WHEREAS, This dedicated man devotes his time to fulfilling the mission of the American Housing Foundation, using his architectural and business experience to address the housing needs of individuals living on fixed incomes; and

WHEREAS, Garry J. Kearns 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, He is an active volunteer with many organizations, including Catholic Charities, St. Mary's Hospital, St. Anne's Institute, and Visiting Nurses Association; he was recently inducted by his alma mater, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, into the Ice Hockey Team's "Ring of Honor"; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 53 years, Joan, and they are the proud parents of two sons, Ken and Kevin, and a daughter, the late Karen; and

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

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Garry J. Kearns 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 Garry J. Kearns upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Third Age Achievement Award in Volunteerism; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Garry J. Kearns.