

## 2013-J4525

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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, Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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 Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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 Benjamin Mendel, Jr. has dedicated his purposeful life to serving the community; a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he proudly served his country in the United States Navy during the Korean War, and returned to the Capital Region to begin his architectural career, his roles as husband and father, and his life as a dedicated volunteer; and

WHEREAS, For 55 years, Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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, Benjamin Mendel, Jr. has served on the boards of directors of Historic Cherry Hill, the Northeast New York Speech Center, B'nai B'rith Housing Corporation, Albany Roman Catholic Diocese, Catholic/Jewish Dialogue Committee, Commission on the Restoration of the New York State

Capitol Building, has served as commissioner on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Committee, and as President and Board member of Congregation Beth Emeth; he has also worked in Congregation Beth Emeth's soup kitchen, participated in Albany Rotary clean up days, and has assisted in the organizing of Girl Scout camping trips; and

WHEREAS, This generous man has received a number of awards for his commitment, including: Jewish Family Services Volunteer of the Year; B'nai B'rith Gideon Lodge No. 40 Covenant Award, Jewish War Veterans Post 105 Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award, the DeWitt Clinton Masonic Award for Community Service, and Congregation Beth Emeth Sisterhood Youth, Education & Service Award; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 56 years, Ruth, their children, Lisa (Ben), and Naomi (Thomas) as well as their grandchildren, Benjamin, Evan, Brianna, Shoshana and Aubrey; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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 Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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 Benjamin Mendel, Jr. 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 Benjamin Mendel, Jr.