

## 2013-J4571

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Lawrence Henry Cooke posthumously upon the occasion of his induction into the Monticello Central School District's Inaugural Hall of Distinction on November 3, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service were an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Lawrence Henry Cooke posthumously upon the occasion of his induction into the Monticello Central School District's Inaugural Hall of Distinction celebrated at a ceremony held in the school's Arnold Packer Hughes Auditorium on Sunday, November 3, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Hall of Distinction was established in 2012 by the Board of Education to honor graduates or attendees, or former teachers or staff members who have made a lasting and outstanding contribution to society upon graduating or leaving the Monticello Central School District; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Henry Cooke was a graduate of Monticello High School, Class of 1931; and

WHEREAS, Former Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, Judge Lawrence Cooke was instrumental in bringing about swift reforms such as uniform work hours and vacation, extended civil arbitration and uniform rules for all trial courts; and

WHEREAS, Working his way up the ladder of the court system, Judge Lawrence Cooke began as a private practice lawyer, was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court in the Third Judicial District, was appointed an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division and was eventually appointed

Chief Judge in January of 1979; and

WHEREAS, In his position, Judge Lawrence Cooke served with the highest accolades until his retirement in 1984; in 1997, the Sullivan County Court House was named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Lawrence Henry Cooke displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice 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 Lawrence Henry Cooke posthumously upon the occasion of his induction into the Monticello Central School District's Inaugural Hall of Distinction; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Lawrence Henry Cooke.