

## 2013-J4607

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the New York State Dental Association and the New York State Dental Foundation upon the occasion of hosting their first Mission of Mercy free dental clinic in the State of New York, June 13-14, 2014

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the importance of oral health as a part of overall health and supporting efforts to improve the oral health of all in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Oral health is a critical component of overall health affecting speech, nutrition, growth and function, social development, employability and productivity, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the New York State Dental Association and the New York State Dental Foundation upon the occasion of hosting their first Mission of Mercy (MoM) free dental clinic in the State of New York, to be held June 13-14, 2014, at Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Dental Association (NYSDA) was incorporated in 1867 to promote the public's health through its member dentists' commitment to provide quality dental care accessible to everyone; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Dental Foundation (NYSDF) was incorporated in 1980 to improve the oral health of all New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Dental Association and its Foundation have increased the public's understanding of and access to dental services; and

WHEREAS, The America's Dentists Care Foundation has been providing free dental services for the underserved through Mission of Mercy events across America since 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mission of Mercy will provide free dental care and oral

health education to more than a thousand men, women and children from Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady and Saratoga counties who lack access to dental care; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of volunteers, including dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, lab technicians, dental students and residents, medical professionals and community leaders, will provide cleanings, x-rays, fillings, extractions, partial and full dentures, oral health education and assistance in finding local dental care; and

WHEREAS, Access to dental care is associated with higher utilization of preventive and restorative dental services; and

WHEREAS, New York State residents deserve access to quality dental health care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the New York State Dental Association and the New York State Dental Foundation upon the occasion of hosting their first Mission of Mercy free dental clinic in the State of New York, June 13-14, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New York State Dental Association and the New York State Dental Foundation.