

2013-J5601

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Commencement Ceremony at Jefferson Community College

WHEREAS, The State of New York is renowned for its centuries-old tradition of excellence and diversity in education and for the place of paramount importance which education holds for the people of the State; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend institutions of commitment and high achievement, such as Jefferson Community College, whose purpose and endeavor are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in education and service to its community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Jefferson Community College, Watertown, New York, upon the occasion of its 50th Commencement ceremony on May 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Community College marked this milestone by formally dedicating its 50th Commencement ceremony to its first graduating class of 36 students who graduated on June 12, 1965; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of its gratitude and as an expression of great respect and high regard, this Legislative Body is proud to commemorate this auspicious milestone in the history of the college; and

WHEREAS, On November 7, 1961, the citizens of Jefferson County voted by referendum to establish Jefferson Community College (JCC); on September 13, 1963, the college opened its doors at Watertown's former Lansing School with an enrollment of 119 full-time students; on June 12, 1964, construction began on Coffeen Street Hill for a permanent campus for the college and, the next year the college was home to 580 full-time students; and

WHEREAS, By 1982, full-time enrollment exceeded 1,000 students; in 1996, JCC awarded its 10,000th degree at Commencement; and, today in

2014, as it celebrates its 50th commencement ceremony, it boasts the largest class in its history with students who can say Jefferson Community College broadened their education, helped them with their career, and enriched their lives; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Community College continues to be a strong educational partner with Fort Drum, with nearly 41% of the Class of 2014 comprised of active duty soldiers and their family members, veterans, retirees or members of the Army Reserves, who were distinguished during the 50th Commencement ceremony with red, white and blue cords worn in recognition of their service to our country; and

WHEREAS, The colleges and universities of this State and Nation reflect the character and values of the society in which they exist; the administration, faculty and students of Jefferson Community College may take just pride in its history of quality leadership, teaching, achievement and community support, spanning more than 50 years of accomplishment, and bequeathing a legacy of excellence and service for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The success enjoyed by Jefferson Community College is in direct correlation to the efforts of a skilled staff and administration whose involvement is and has been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all its endeavors on behalf of the college and the population it serves; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pauses in its deliberations to celebrate the 50th Commencement Ceremony at Jefferson Community College, fully confident that its future will be as distinguished as its past; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jefferson Community College.