

## 2013-J5780

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Tuition Assistance Program

WHEREAS, Initiatives devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Tuition Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, New York State continues to be the national leader in state investment in higher education; and

WHEREAS, The Tuition Assistance Program or TAP is the centerpiece of New York's student financial aid programs, and is one of the largest and most comprehensive need-based grants for education in the country; and

WHEREAS, Since 1974, TAP has helped more than five million New Yorkers achieve greater access to colleges and universities by reducing the financial burden on students and families; and

WHEREAS, TAP has provided significant resources to students studying full time in undergraduate programs; it has helped fulfill the aspirations of many seeking to improve their lives, including many minority students; one-quarter of all students enrolled, are Black or Hispanic; and

WHEREAS, TAP represents New York State's commitment to the belief that young men and women of every generation deserve an opportunity to fulfill their dreams regardless of economic status, and that financial assistance for education is one of the greatest investments the State can make for its own future; and

WHEREAS, This vital investment in higher education has made New York State stronger as an economy and as a society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Tuition Assistance Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Tuition Assistance Program.