

2013-J5929

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Greg Kaufman upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Whaling Museum & Education Center on July 19, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals of preeminent character whose lives exemplify the highest ideals of humanity and whose lifework and civic endeavor serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Greg Kaufman upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Whaling Museum & Education Center, to be celebrated at its Luau on the Harbor on Saturday, July 19, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Greg Kaufman is the founder and Executive Director of Pacific Whale Foundation and author of numerous books, scientific and popular publications; and

WHEREAS, A pioneer in noninvasive humpback whale research in the mid-1970s, Greg Kaufman founded Pacific Whale Foundation in 1980, and committed his new organization to educating the public, from a scientific perspective, about whales and their ocean habitat; and

WHEREAS, Greg Kaufman oversees the longest running humpback whale research program off Australia, which began in 1984, and has studied humpbacks in Hervey Bay since 1987; he is a world leader in addressing whale protection issues, and has pioneered responsible whale and dolphin-watching programs throughout the Pacific; and

WHEREAS, Widely acknowledged as an innovator and leader in marine ecotourism, Greg Kaufman is an Invited Participant to the International Whaling Commission's Scientific Committee and is a contributor to the

subcommittees on Whalewatching, Southern Hemisphere Whales and Bycatch;
and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he serves on the Hawaiian Island Humpback National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Committee, and recently co-led the United Nations Environmental Program's Regional Workshop on Marine Mammal Watching in the Wider Caribbean Region; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Greg Kaufman over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 Greg Kaufman upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Whaling Museum & Education Center on July 19, 2014;
and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Greg Kaufman.