

2013-J6077

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Rochester Labor Film Series

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the efforts of individuals and organizations who distinguish themselves in service to the cause of working men and women in the 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 commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Rochester Labor Film Series in 2014; sponsored by the Rochester Central Labor Council and the Ronald G. Pettengill Labor Education Fund, this momentous occasion will be held at the Dryden Theatre in collaboration with the George Eastman House; and

WHEREAS, In 1989, the Labor Council held its first Labor Film Series, cosponsored with the George Eastman House; during this time, nine classics were screened at the Dryden Theatre including "Norma Rae", "Matewan", "The Organizer", "Sacco and Vanzetti", "Native Land", and "Harlan County, U.S.A."; and

WHEREAS, Today, in its 25th year, the Rochester Labor Film Series (RLFS) continues to bring labor-themed dramatic films, comedies, and documentaries to the Rochester community; and

WHEREAS, A joint effort of the Dryden Theatre, the Rochester Labor Council, and the International Museum of Film and Photography at George Eastman House, the Rochester Labor Film Series presents motion pictures celebrating workers around the world; its films are selected to inform, provoke and inspire; and

WHEREAS, The first film program of this kind in the Nation, the Rochester Labor Film Series show dramas, comedies and current documentaries on important issues relating to work and workers, particularly

aspects which are often marginalized or absent in dominant commercial media; and

WHEREAS, In addition, these labor-themed films encompass a wide range of issues related to workers, from the conditions of work and the workplace, to organizing struggles, from discrimination and redundancy, to globalization and immigration, from blue and white to pink collars; and

WHEREAS, The Rochester Labor Film Series can best be interpreted as labor films in the context of the economic and class relationships portrayed; context for RLFS films is provided by introductions intended to supply background on the issues raised in a film, offer insight into the film's production or the filmmaker's intent, and help viewers to understand the film; and

WHEREAS, For the past 25 years, the Rochester Labor Film Series has contributed to the building of its communities and has fought diligently to educate the public and better the working and living conditions for those who labor in the proud tradition of their crafts; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Rochester Labor Film Series; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Dryden Theatre, the Rochester Labor Council, and the International Museum of Film and Photography at George Eastman House.