

2015-J77

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Honorable Wesley Edwards upon the occasion of his retirement after 50 years of distinguished service as Town Justice of Stephentown, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those singular individuals who devote their purposeful lives and careers to preserving the rights and protecting the welfare of the citizens of their community and the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in the Stephentown community has been ably served and uniquely enriched through the selfless dedication and benevolent concern of Judge Wesley Edwards; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Honorable Wesley Edwards upon the occasion of his retirement after 50 years of distinguished service as Town Justice of Stephentown, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Berlin, New York Wesley Edwards graduated from Berlin High School in 1947; he valiantly served for six years in the United States Army, half of which time he was stationed in Heidelberg, Germany; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his military service, Wesley Edwards was employed with General Electric in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, retiring in 1992; and

WHEREAS, In 1955, Wesley Edwards married Janet McClintock, and together they raised three children; and

WHEREAS, Wesley Edwards took office as Justice of the Peace in 1964, during which time he held court in his home on Route 43 across from the Stephentown School; it was later moved to Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, Throughout a life and career of purposeful endeavor, Wesley Edwards has remained true to his commitment, serving family, faith and community, as well as the law; his contributions and accomplishments

have brought great benefit and positive influence to bear upon the course of jurisprudence and the quality of life for others; and WHEREAS, Firm in his commitment for 50 years, Judge Wesley Edwards has remained dedicated to the betterment and progress of the Stephentown community; and

WHEREAS, Respected by both attorneys and defendants alike, Judge Wesley Edwards always conducted an impartial and objective court; he treated all defendants with compassion and dignity while at the same time remaining fair in his rulings; and

WHEREAS, In addition to presiding over the Town of Stephentown courtroom, Wesley Edwards serves as Secretary of the Veterans of Stephentown organization; he is a longtime member of the Empire State Masonic Order at the Unity Lodge No. 9, and was an active member of the Stephentown Volunteer Fire Department for more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he and his wife are both active members of the Stephentown Federated Church; and

WHEREAS, The longest serving Judge in Rensselaer County, Wesley Edwards received Special Recognition in 2008, from the New York State Magistrates Association for his 45 years of continuous service in the local justice system; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated public servant, Wesley Edwards is also a committed family man; he is the proud father of three children, Greg (Doreen), Dwight (Anne) and Carolyn (Patrick), as well as the loving grandfather of seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Judge Wesley Edwards, in every capacity in which he served, has left his permanent mark on the criminal justice community and will forever be remembered as a determined, innovative and genuinely concerned expert in his field; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Judge Wesley Edwards upon the occasion of his retirement after 50 years of distinguished service as Town Justice of Stephentown, New

York, and to extend its sincere gratitude for his contribution to the people of New York State; and be it further
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Wesley Edwards.