

2015-J518

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dick Mattia upon the occasion of his retirement after 26 years of distinguished service to the American Heart Association's Greater Utica Division

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens of this great Empire State who have devoted themselves to faithfully serving the best interests of their community and the needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dick Mattia upon the occasion of his retirement after 26 years of distinguished service to the American Heart Association's Greater Utica Division; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at a retirement dinner held on Thursday, October 30, 2014, at the Hart's Hill Inn, Whitesboro, New York; and

WHEREAS, For the past 26 years, Dick Mattia rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service to the American Heart Association, earning the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Dick Mattia began his career with the American Heart Association on May 2, 1988, serving as Division Director for Chenango, Delaware, and Otsego Counties; his tireless efforts on behalf of this life-saving organization led to him becoming Executive Director of the Greater Utica Division in 2000; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as Executive Director, this esteemed man helped the Greater Utica Division expand its services, transforming the annual charity race from a small function of 1,300 runners into America's Greatest Heart Run & Walk, a major community event drawing approximately 9,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Dick Mattia's tremendous dedication helped America's Greatest

Heart Run & Walk become the number one ranked Heart Walk fundraiser in America, serving as a model for other such events across the country; and

WHEREAS, A true visionary, Dick Mattia was also instrumental in bringing attention to women's health issues, helping to establish women's heart health events in advance of national programs like the Go Red for Women campaign; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his over two decades of service, Dick Mattia served with loyalty, honor and distinction, and always showed a unique grasp of human problems in his official acts; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals 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 honor Dick Mattia upon the occasion of his retirement after 26 years of distinguished service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dick Mattia.