

2015-J1270

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending William Kennedy upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Irish American Heritage Museum

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that individuals who distinguish themselves in their profession and in their commitment to their heritage and their community merit the highest commendation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend William Kennedy upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Irish American Heritage Museum; it was celebrated at its 2nd Annual Governor Hugh L. Carey Awards Dinner, on Saturday, November 1, 2014, at the Desmond Hotel in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Irish American Heritage Museum is a permanently chartered not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and telling the story of the contributions of the Irish people and their culture in America, inspiring individuals to examine the importance of their own heritage as part of the American cultural mosaic; and

WHEREAS, The Irish American Heritage Museum Award acknowledges those who exemplify its ideals and help to further its mission; William Kennedy truly merits such recognition; and

WHEREAS, The Irish American Heritage Museum proudly recognizes the achievements of those who reflect in their work the contributions of the Irish people in America, and exemplify the Irish spirit of Governor Hugh L. Carey and the Museum's mission; and

WHEREAS, Irish American Pulitzer Prize author William Kennedy is a novelist, playwright and screenwriter whose works include the ALBANY CYCLE series, which feature members of the Irish American family, the Phelans; in 1975, he began the ALBANY CYCLE with LEGS, which was

followed by BILLY PHELAN'S GREATEST GAME; and

WHEREAS, In 1983, William Kennedy wrote IRONWEED, which was made into an acclaimed film starring Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep, both of whom were nominated for Academy Awards; and

WHEREAS, In 1983, William Kennedy also wrote O ALBANY!, the combined history, street guide, and memoir of Albany, New York, based on his experiences, wide reading, and an illustrious career as a Reporter for the TIMES UNION; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, William Kennedy wrote QUINN'S BOOK followed by VERY OLD BONES in 1992; four years later he authored THE FLAMING CORSAGE; in addition, he wrote ROSCOE in 2002, and CHANGO'S BEADS AND TWO-TONE SHOES in 2011; and

WHEREAS, William Kennedy's work greatly illustrates the contributions of Irish people in Albany and in America; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly proclaim and commend them for the edification and emulation of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend William Kennedy upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Irish American Heritage Museum; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to William Kennedy.