

## 2015-J1676

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Honorable George B. Ceresia, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service as New York State Supreme Court Justice of the Third Judicial District

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed individuals whose lives have been committed to the pursuit of excellence and who bring great pride to the citizens of our great State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Honorable George B. Ceresia, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service as New York State Supreme Court Justice of the Third Judicial District, to be celebrated at a Retirement Party held in his honor on Thursday, May 14, 2015, at Franklin Terrace, Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born in Troy, New York, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr., will retire in May of 2015, after 43 years on the bench; and

WHEREAS, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. earned his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Albany in 1965; he then obtained his Juris Doctor from Albany Law School in 1968; and

WHEREAS, In 1968, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. was admitted to the New York State Bar; he then practiced law in the private sector from 1969-1987; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, at the age of 28, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. was elected North Greenbush Town Justice, and subsequently was re-elected for three additional terms; and

WHEREAS, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. was chosen Rensselaer County Surrogate Judge in 1987; throughout his tenure, he also presided for 15

months as Judge in the Rensselaer County Family Court and for four years he held the position of Judge in the Rensselaer County Court; and WHEREAS, In 1993, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. was elected to the esteemed position of Supreme Court Justice, a title he will hold until he officially retires in May of 2015; in this capacity, he also presided over terms of the Troy City Court, and led the Integrated Domestic Violence Part in Rensselaer County; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, in 2004, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. was appointed Administrative Judge of the Third Judicial District, a position he held until 2013; and

WHEREAS, Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. is a charter member and former Chair of the Third Judicial District's Gender Fairness Committee, as well as a founding associate of the Third Judicial District's Anti-Bias Panel; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man has also lectured and been a panelist on various legal topics throughout his career, and during his practice eligibility years represented pro bono a wide variety of community organizations; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife Penny L. Ceresia, and their two children, Andrew and William, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, leadership, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by Justice George B. Ceresia, Jr. over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when public servants 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 recognize and commend The Honorable George B. Ceresia, Jr. upon the

occasion of his retirement, and to wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable George B. Ceresia, Jr.