

## 2015-K430

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Legal Project upon the occasion of its designation for special recognition by the Equinox Domestic Violence Shelter

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Legal Project upon the occasion of its designation for special recognition, to be celebrated at the Equinox Domestic Violence Shelter's 25th Anniversary Luncheon on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Legal Project, a private, not-for-profit organization, was founded by the Capital District Women's Bar Association in 1995; this vital organization provides a variety of free and low cost legal services to the working poor, victims of domestic violence and other underserved individuals in the Capital District of New York State; and

WHEREAS, The Legal Project believes that all people, regardless of income, gender, disability, race, religion, age, sexual orientation or ethnicity should have access to legal services; this belief reflects a deep commitment to fairness and equal justice under the law; and

WHEREAS, Based upon these beliefs, the mission of The Legal Project is to make the law more accessible to those in need, especially women, to increase the legal community's involvement in pro bono work, and to serve as a resource on legal issues; and

WHEREAS, Since 1995, The Legal Project has been a close ally and

frequent partner to Equinox Domestic Violence Services; working to support domestic violence survivors, through services to individuals, as well as working to improve system response to victims, locally and statewide; and

WHEREAS, In addition, The Legal Project's attorneys frequently provide technical assistance to the staff of the Equinox Domestic Violence Shelter and frequently collaborate on legal cases; and

WHEREAS, The doors of the Equinox Domestic Violence Center were officially opened to the public on June 1, 1989; due to the commitment of the Albany Junior League, the Shelter has been serving the needs of the citizens of the Capital District ever since; and

WHEREAS, The Equinox Domestic Violence Shelter is committed to providing safety for victims of Domestic Violence, including the elderly, and offer the support, assistance and tools they need to escape abusive situations and take control of their lives; and

WHEREAS, A symbol of hope in the community for 20 years, the success enjoyed by The Legal Project is in direct correlation to the efforts of its founders, supporters, staff and the thousands of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when 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 commend The Legal Project upon the occasion of its designation for special recognition by the Equinox Domestic Violence Shelter; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Legal Project.