

2015-J1847

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Waterford Flight of Locks on May 15, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the distinguished histories of the communities which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Barge Canal and the Waterford Flight of Locks to be celebrated on Friday, May 15, 2015, in Waterford, New York; and

WHEREAS, First opened in 1915, the Waterford Flight of Locks was constructed to bypass the Cohoes Falls of the Mohawk River; its five-lock flight changes water elevation by an impressive 169 feet over 1.5 miles, twice the total lift of the entire Panama Canal; and

WHEREAS, The Waterford Flight of Locks is recognized as a historic engineering landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and has been called the "greatest series of high lift locks in the shortest distance in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Part of the New York State Barge Canal System, the construction of the Waterford Flight of Locks assured the Village of Waterford's vital role in canal transport throughout the first half of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, Through a strong commitment to preservation and encouragement of sensitive development along its waterways, New York State has taken the essential steps to ensure that the Canal System and its historic legacy will be preserved and fostered in the 21st century as a vital resource for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Today, this important flight of five locks continues to serve

the needs of recreational boaters, and still provides the highest lift in the shortest distance of any canal built in the nation; and WHEREAS, Remaining fruitful over the ebb and flow of decades of growth and change, Waterford Flight of Locks stands as testament to the ingenuity and determination of the citizens of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Waterford Flight of Locks, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the communities of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Waterford Flight of Locks.