

2015-J1930

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Anna Babcock upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate and recognize certain milestones celebrated by citizens of this great Nation and Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Anna Babcock of Wellsville, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and

WHEREAS, Anna was born on March 19, 1915, in Silver Springs, New York, to Michael and Anna Kova, and was one of the couple's four children; in 1928, the family changed their last name to Cook; and

WHEREAS, A first-generation American, her parents having immigrated from Austria-Hungary in 1912, she spent the first five years of her life speaking Hungarian at home, all the while being told by her parents, "You are American and you are going to speak English"; and

WHEREAS, A child of the Great Depression, Anna learned early the importance of hard work and the ability to take life as it comes; and

WHEREAS, Anna graduated from Silver Springs School and then attended Genesee Normal School, today known as SUNY Geneseo, where she earned her degree in teaching; and

WHEREAS, She taught for five years at schools in Eagle and Portageville, New York; from her time teaching, Anna most vividly remembers the one and two-room school buildings where she instructed English, reading, mathematics and science; and

WHEREAS, While out with friends at the Silver Lake Roller Skating Rink, Anna met a young Frenchman who would introduce her to his friend William Babcock of Goshen, New York; and

WHEREAS, In the 1930s, William Babcock and Anna Cook married at the Catholic Church in Silver Springs; a short time later, they found themselves living in Wellsville, where William hoped to find a job during a boom in the community's economy; and

WHEREAS, After arriving in Wellsville, with the help of a cousin, the couple opened a dry-cleaners at 91 Main Street; following an increase in the storefront's rent, from \$100 to \$150, the couple purchased a new building, moved their cleaner, and went on to operate the business successfully for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Anna and William Babcock took up residence on Hamilton Street; Anna would call this home until moving to Manor Hills Inc., at age 97; along with their home in Wellsville, the Babcocks purchased a hunting cabin in Scio and a fishing camp in Canada where they would vacation; and

WHEREAS, Today, Anna Babcock is a loving aunt to her three nephews, Michael, Brian, and Allan Cook, and three nieces, Kathy Cook, and Gail and Sally Goof; and

WHEREAS, She is noted by friends and family for her strong work ethic, keen sense of family history and sharp memory; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize and honor the lives of beloved citizens who have reached a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments, and awesome achievements of this country during the last century; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Anna Babcock upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Anna Babcock.