

## 2015-K590

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending District Governor D. George Allen and Partner in Service Delva upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by Lions Club International District 20-K1 on June 7, 2015

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 District Governor D. George Allen and Partner in Service Delva upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by Lions Club international District 20-K1, to be celebrated on Sunday, June 7, 2015, at Russo's On The Bay, Howard Beach, New York; and

WHEREAS, Lions Club International is one of the largest service organizations in the World, comprised of 1.35 million members throughout 45,000 clubs in 206 countries and geographic areas; the inherent mission of this vital organization is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1917, and best known for its goal of eradicating blindness, Lions Club International members are also integrally involved in projects geared to preserving the environment, feeding the hungry, and aiding those in need throughout its communities; and

WHEREAS, As part of its focus on sight saving or restoring projects, Lions Club International helps conduct vision screenings and distribute much needed medicines; in addition, they collect and recycle old eye

glasses for reuse, and raise awareness of disease prevention and treatment, and help equip medical facilities with the tools they need to promote visual health; and

WHEREAS, Lions are recognized worldwide for their service to the blind and visually-impaired; this service began when Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become her "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" during the Lions' 1925 International Convention; and

WHEREAS, The Lions Club International District 20-K1 have been instrumental in enabling the Lions Eye Bank to fulfill its central mission of providing safe, high quality tissue for transplantation; this vital organization was established in 1986, as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to fighting corneal blindness; and

WHEREAS, As part of the North Shore-LIJ Health System, the Lions Eye Bank coordinates all of the activities necessary to recover, process, medically screen, and distribute donated eye tissue for transplantation, research, education, and the advancement of medical technique; and

WHEREAS, To date, the Lions Eye Bank has provided over 13,000 corneas for sight restoring or sight preserving transplants both on Long Island and in the entire New York City metropolitan area, as well as individuals living in areas throughout the globe; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend District Governor D. George Allen and Partner in Service Delva upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by Lions Club International District 20-K1; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lions Club International District 20-K1 D. George Allen, Governor, and its Partner in Service, Delva.