## 2015-J2700

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center upon the occasion of celebrating the 20th Anniversary of its Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those facilities and organizations which substantially contribute to the health, comfort and well-being of the people of the Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this Legislative Body wishes to commend the efforts of organizations and facilities which provide much needed and essential support services for the families of hospitalized veterans, and serve to enhance the quality of life for those veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center upon the occasion of celebrating the 20th Anniversary of its Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House on Thursday, June 25, 2015, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The first Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House was built by the Fishers in 1990 at the Bethesda National Naval Medical Center; since then, Fisher Houses throughout the country have served nearly 70,000 visiting families of Veterans hospitalized at military healthcare facilities for long-term therapies or treatments; and

WHEREAS, Fisher House is truly a home-away-from-home for families of hospitalized veterans or veterans who are in the area to visit a hospitalized member of their immediate family; also welcome to stay at the Fisher House are veterans, undergoing an extended episode of outpatient therapy, who are able to care for their own personal needs or are accompanied by a caretaker; and

WHEREAS, Samuel S. Stratton Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center at Albany is proud to be the first VA Medical Center in the Nation selected as a site for the Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House; it is truly a measure of the quality of care given at this vital institution that the Fishers chose this medical center to pioneer support to veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, Over its distinguished 20 year history, the Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House of Albany has demonstrated continuous and unwavering service to the veterans, residents and communities which it serves; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House is in direct correlation to the efforts of its dedicated staff and volunteers, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Stratton VA Medical Center Fisher House in Albany, New York; 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 recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center upon the occasion of celebrating the 20th Anniversary of its Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher House; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Linda W. Weiss, Director, Albany Stratton VA Medical Center.