

## 2015-J2852

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Fran Martino upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Environmental Champion Award by the United States Environmental Protection Agency

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals and organizations within the great State of New York that are dedicated to the vital work of environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Fran Martino upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Environmental Champion Award by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, Fran Martino has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; she performs all of her public service with her faithful dog Loki by her side; and

WHEREAS, An esteemed resident of Ghent, New York, Fran Martino is an environmental educator who uses citizen science and outdoor exploration to connect people to their local watershed; and

WHEREAS, Fran Martino is the sole proprietor of River Haggie Outdoors, a Woman-Owned Business Enterprise located in Columbia County, New York; she also serves as the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Greater Stockport Creek Watershed Alliance whose mission is to explore, understand, and protect the watershed ecosystem through community involvement and stewardship; and

WHEREAS, A steadfast and unremitting environmental advocate, Fran Martino's work includes developing, planning and presenting educational and recreational programs for the general public, schools, scouts, town parks, day camps and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Fran Martino spearheaded the Alliance's "Stream Spotter" program to train community volunteers to monitor water quality throughout the Greater Stockport Creek Watershed; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Fran Martino serves the New York State Department of Health Fish Advisory Outreach Project where she has been instrumental in raising awareness on fish consumption from New York State waters; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Fran Martino has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Fran Martino has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon all citizens to recognize and applaud the efforts of individuals such as Fran Martino who work tirelessly on behalf of protecting our natural surroundings for the benefit of present and future generations of New Yorkers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Fran Martino upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Environmental Champion Award by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Fran Martino.