

2015-K779

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Patrick Mahony upon the occasion of his retirement after 12 years of distinguished service to the New York Racing Association

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Patrick Mahony upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of distinguished service to the New York Racing Association; and

WHEREAS, Pari-Mutuel operations has long been a Mahony family business; Patrick "Pat" Mahony's grandfather, Mort Mahony, was a pioneer of the modern Pari-Mutuel wagering system, and influenced his three sons and his grandson, Patrick Mahony to work within the horse racing industry; and

WHEREAS, Both Mort and his son, Riggs Mahony, opened Pari-Mutuel Systems all over the country; and

WHEREAS, A native of Miami, Florida, Pat Mahony was born on June 10, 1946; in 1968, he graduated from the University of Miami; he embarked upon his Pari-Mutuel career at racetracks up and down the East Coast, including the states of Massachusetts, New Jersey and Florida; and

WHEREAS, In 1966, Pat Mahony began his illustrious career employed at the now closed Garden State Race Track and Atlantic City Race Track in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, However, most of Pat Mahony's career was spent in South Florida, working the circuit under three different owners where he has led the Pari-Mutuel Departments at all three major racetracks, Calder, Hialeah, and Gulfstream Park; and

WHEREAS, In 1967, Pat Mahony joined the staff at Hialeah Racetrack, and seven years later, he succeeded his father, Riggs Mahony, as Director of Mutuels, serving in this capacity until 1989; and

WHEREAS, Pat Mahony was also employed at Gulfstream Park for numerous years, holding the position of Director of Mutuels from 1983-2003; in addition, he served as Vice President of Mutuels at Calder Race Course from 1979-2003; and

WHEREAS, After his illustrious career in South Florida, Pat Mahony relocated to New York and held the title of Vice President of Mutuels for NYRA in 2003, a position he would hold until his promotion to Senior Vice President of Pari-Mutuels in 2009; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as Senior Vice President, Pat Mahony has worked diligently to position the Pari-Mutuel Department at NYRA as the finest and most important in the country; he installed a solid management team while establishing the highest standards of credibility and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Pat Mahony is a member of NYRA's Leadership Committee, and has assisted the New York State Racing and Wagering Board and industry organizations on national tote strategies and protocols; and

WHEREAS, Pat Mahony has served as a consultant and has contributed writings to the University of Arizona; he was also a member of the Breeder's Cup/NTRA's Wagering Technology Working Group (WTWG); and

WHEREAS, The most experienced, longest-serving Pari-Mutuel Executive in the thoroughbred industry, Pat Mahony has enjoyed a stellar career which has spanned the transformation of Pari-Mutuel wagering from manual calculations of wager odds/payoffs to electro-mechanical, to the current electronic era of mutual/tote operation; and

WHEREAS, Pat Mahony enjoys a national reputation not only for his knowledge of Pari-Mutuels, but also the history of racetracks around the world, their architecture, jockeys, horses, and the many characters who live, work and play in the world of thoroughbred competition; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Patrick Mahony upon the occasion of his retirement after 12 years of distinguished service to the New York Racing Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Patrick Mahony.