

2015-K789

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Richard J. Bartlett, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly the death of certain prominent individuals whose valued contributions to their community, their profession, and their heritage served to enhance the quality of life in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Bartlett of Glens Falls, New York, died on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, Born February 15, 1926, in Glens Falls, New York, Richard J. Bartlett was a lifelong resident of the North Country, spending his summers at his home at 14 Mile Island in Bolton Landing, New York; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Bartlett spent his life serving the people of Glens Falls, Warren County and New York State; an avid sailor at the Lake George Club, he had a great love of the outdoors and spent many hours hunting and fishing throughout the Adirondacks; and

WHEREAS, Active within the community he so ably served, Richard J. Bartlett was President of the United Cerebral Palsy Association, a charter member of the Glens Falls branch of the NAACP, a trustee of Glens Falls National Bank, a member of the Board of Trustees at the Hyde Collection and a director and supporter of the Glens Falls Symphony; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Bartlett co-founded the law firm of Clark, Bartlett & Caffry in 1962, which is now known as Bartlett, Pontiff Stewart and Rhodes, PC (BPSR); and

WHEREAS, Representing Warren County as a member of the New York State Assembly from 1959 through 1966, Richard J. Bartlett was instrumental in virtually abolishing capital punishment in New York State; in 1961, he was appointed by then Governor Nelson Rockefeller as Chair of the New

York State Temporary Commission on Revision of the Penal Law; and WHEREAS, Richard J. Bartlett then served as justice of the Supreme Court from 1973 to 1979, at which time he was appointed as the first chief administrative judge of the Unified Court System for the State of New York, where he oversaw a reorganization of the state's courts; and WHEREAS, This esteemed man served as Dean and Professor of Law at Albany Law School from 1979 to 1986, after which he returned to his beloved Glens Falls where he rejoined his law firm, BPSR; in 1986, he joined both the New York State Board of Law Examiners and the National Conference of Bar Examiners; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of countless awards and accolades, Richard J. Bartlett received the Gold Medal, New York State Bar Association's highest award, in 2004, as well as Lifetime Achievement Awards from both the New York State Bar Association and the New York Law Journal; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he received the Henry Crandall Award, the Good Scout Award, and was recognized by Warren County Bar Association as the first recipient of the Charles Evans Hughes Award; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Bartlett was sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom he worked; committed to his community, the people he represented, his State, and his Nation, he served his public with dignity, dedication and incisive wisdom; and

WHEREAS, Over a long and meritorious life of service on behalf of others, Richard J. Bartlett was a man of action, of integrity, and of commitment, whose true compassion was generously given to all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his wife, Claire, his parents, George and Kathryn Bartlett, and his sister, Mary Jane, Richard J. Bartlett is survived by his two children, Michael (Anne) and Amy (Robert); two

grandsons, Patrick and Timothy (Rebecca); and his sister, Nancy; as well as several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of

compassion, Richard J. Bartlett leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Richard J. Bartlett, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Richard J. Bartlett.