

## 2015-J3213

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the Coffin family upon the occasion of their designation as recipient of the 2015 Family of the Year Award by Kids Oneida on August 18, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character who have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State with their strong contributions to the community and model citizenship; and WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Coffin Family upon the occasion of their designation as recipient of the 2015 Family of the Year Award by Kids Oneida, to be feted at its 24th Annual Celebration and Festival on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, in the Jorgensen Athletic and Events Center, at Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Family of the Year Celebration and Festival will benefit the Healthy Families Programs of Oneida and Herkimer Counties; these vital programs are available to both new and expecting parents in both Counties; and

WHEREAS, The home visiting programs use a strengths-based model to provide child development and access to community resources; as an entirely voluntary program with weekly home visits, staff and parents develop strong, trusting and open relationships that facilitate impressive results; and

WHEREAS, Kids Oneida is a non-profit organization which works with at risk youth and their families to keep them from out of home placements; using the wraparound philosophy towards treatment, Kids Oneida works with a comprehensive team to provide the child and family with individualized treatment and services to help them meet their goals; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious award honors a local family, such as the Coffins, for their nurturing attitudes and behavior, and for creating awareness of the importance and value of all family relationships; generations of their family have not only instilled values into they own children, but also, into the children who reside within the Mohawk Valley; and

WHEREAS, The Coffin family has been called upon to contribute their time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and have always given of themselves unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, On their wedding day on June 12, 1987, Ike and Kelly Coffin arranged for a small group of friends and family to play golf at the Golf Club of Newport in Newport, New York; what transpired from that day was not only a successful marriage, but the makings of a small town mid-summer classic, appropriately named the Coffin Family & Friends Invitational, in the picturesque Kuyahoorra Valley located in Central New York; and

WHEREAS, Thinking it was a great idea to get friends and family together, Ike Coffin's thoughts turned to organizing an annual golf event and in time raise money for charity causes; two years later, the first outing was organized; and

WHEREAS, The first tournament was called the Non-Leon Fore and was held at the Golf Club of Newport, New York; the second annual tournament, the first Coffin Family & Friends Invitational Golf Tournament, drew 96 golfers and was held for the benefit of the Kuyahoorra Valley Ambulance Corp.; and

WHEREAS, In the following years, the Coffin Family & Friends Invitational has grown by leaps and bounds; as many as 288 golfers have participated in a single event; in addition to the golfers, many friends

and family come to volunteer, support a good cause and enjoy a great meal and good old-fashioned camaraderie; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, the Memorial Atlanta Classic (the "MAC Daddy") golf

tournament was founded in Atlanta, Georgia, and the Coffin & Friends Tour was born; the tour has evolved into a way of also helping those in need in additional local communities and sharing "Small Town Values for Life" across the country; in 2000, the Coffin & Friends Tour Championship in Virginia Beach, Virginia was added as the third Major; and WHEREAS, In 2004, The Kuyahoorra Valley Foundation, Inc. was recognized as a non-profit organization; in planning each event, the Coffins strive to reach four goals: to help those less fortunate, to have a great time with friends and family, to relish the great game of golf, and to give just a little something back; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, the Coffin Family and all of their invaluable volunteers have proudly raised and donated significant funds to various charitable organizations and to neighbors and friends with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of their community service, a period of constructive involvement, the Coffin family has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, The Coffin family has continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in their unwavering service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which the Coffin family has displayed throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence 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 the Coffin family upon the occasion of their designation as recipient of the 2015 Family of the Year Award by Kids Oneida on August 18, 2015; and be it further

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