

## 2015-J3254

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of George H. Champion, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, George H. Champion, of Glens Falls, New York, died on Monday, December 14, 2015, at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, Born on October 8, 1926, in Lake George, New York, George H. Champion was the son of the late Bertie L. Champion; he grew up in Saratoga Springs, New York, where he attended high school, and participated in football, basketball and track; and

WHEREAS, George H. Champion proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Following the completion of his military service, George H. Champion worked for many years at G&V Laundry and Robinson Linen Supply; after retiring, he worked for 30 years at the Glens Falls Civic Center; and

WHEREAS, On January 17, 1954, George H. Champion married the love of his life, Mary VanVranken, at the First Baptist Church of Glens Falls; they would continue to worship as members of their church congregation for over 60 years; and

WHEREAS, Known for his patience and devotion to his family, George H. Champion enjoyed playing golf and softball, as well as attending his grandchildren's numerous events; and

WHEREAS, George H. Champion's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous awards for his outstanding service, George H. Champion was presented with the Citizen of the Year Award by the Glens Falls Rotary Club and the Red Carpet Award by the Lake George/Adirondack Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau; he was also honored by the Glens Falls Civic Center with his own walkway named "George Champion Way"; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his mother and sister, George H. Champion is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Mary; his two children, Gregory (Laurie) and Deborah (Curtis); and four grandchildren, Rachaud (Taylor), Shae (Oscar), Blair, and Brett; as well as members of his loving extended family, Robert and David Aikens; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, George H. Champion 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 George H. Champion, 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 George H. Champion.