

2015-J3259

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of John J. Finley, 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, John J. Finley of Hudson, New York, died on July 2, 2015, at the age of 68; and

WHEREAS, A native of Falls Church, Virginia, John J. Finley was the son of Judge William Thompson Finley and Mary Jordan Finley; and

WHEREAS, John J. Finley earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard College, graduating cum laude in 1968; following graduation, he returned home and attended the University of Virginia School of Law where he received his Juris Doctor in 1971; and

WHEREAS, John J. Finley distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, For over 20 years, this esteemed man practiced law in New York City, where he was a partner at the law offices of Stairs, Dillenbeck, and Finley; and

WHEREAS, John J. Finley's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; he volunteered extensively with the British American Chamber of Commerce, serving as its Chairman for two terms in the 1990s, and was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II for his devoted service; and

WHEREAS, A true gentleman and scholar, John J. Finley was a voracious reader, and a gifted writer and musician; he also enjoyed history, jazz,

literature, films, baseball and golf; and

WHEREAS, Born of a proud Scottish heritage, John J. Finley was known for hosting wonderful Robbie Burns parties for his family and many friends; he will be remembered for his incredible intellect, and many talents, as well as for his remarkable kindness and wit; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his parents and two siblings, William Jr. and Mary Anne, John J. Finley is survived by his beloved wife, Judith, their two children, John (Chase), and Jacqueline; one grandson, John, Jr.; his sister-in-law, Julie; and brother-in-law Gary; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cherished friends; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, John J. Finley 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 John J. Finley, 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 John J. Finley.