

## 2015-J3375

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Audrey M. France, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of her 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 and their profession served to enhance the quality of life in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Audrey M. France of Port Crane, New York, died on Tuesday, November 24, 2015, at the age of 72; and

WHEREAS, One of three children born to Dorothy and Ernie Youngs, Audrey M. France grew up working in her father's landmark store in Port Crane, a small hub of emergency response with four telephones, two radio transmitters, two radio receivers and a Binghamton police radio monitor; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after the death of Audrey's father in 1981, the county took over dispatch operations and a year later, hired Audrey to work in fire control operations where she was a source of advice and good spirits to her coworkers; and

WHEREAS, As a dispatcher for Broome County Fire and EMS for 23 years, Audrey M. France was attentive and sensitive especially in a stressful job such as emergency response when calls can be nonstop throughout the day; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this esteemed woman showed great attention to the police officers and firefighters she assisted, as well as caring for the public who sought her help in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, Affectionately known as "Mom", Audrey M. France easily fell into that familiar role to her younger colleagues, always giving gifts and sharing the fruits of her labors; and

WHEREAS, Audrey M. France shared a love of knitting and crocheting with her friends and always kept a number of cotton dish cloths on hand so that she had a gift to bring with her anytime she visited someone; and

WHEREAS, It was Audrey M. France's delicious cooking that unified all of her friends and family, especially her homemade macaroni and cheese which was said to be the "best mac and cheese in the Western world"; and

WHEREAS, Audrey M. France and her late husband, Bill, were an instrumental force in charity car shows and members of the Cruisin Buddies Car Club, owning a red 1967 Dodge Charger that their son, Kevin, had restored; and

WHEREAS, Audrey M. France lived her life believing one must be knowledgeable about their past, active in their present and concerned and willing to work for their future; her passion for the community will truly be missed by all those who were lucky enough to know her; and

WHEREAS, Audrey M. France was sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom she worked; committed to her community, the people she represented, her State, and her Nation, she served her public with dignity, dedication and incisive wisdom; and

WHEREAS, Over a long and meritorious life of service on behalf of others, Audrey M. France was a woman of action, of integrity, and of commitment, whose true compassion was generously given to all who knew her; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by her parents, Audrey M. France is survived by her sons, Jeffrey (Perpetua Megwa) France and Kevin (Tammy) France; and several grandchildren, Shannon and Evan Buschbacher, Melanie and Joseph Garite, Stephen O'Neil and Matthew France; as well as her great-grandson, Logan Garite; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Audrey M. France leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all

she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Audrey M. France, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of her community; and be it further

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