

## 2015-J3411

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring P. W. Minor of Batavia, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are enhanced by the concerned and dedicated efforts of business organizations and individuals that generously contribute to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor P. W. Minor of Batavia, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce to be celebrated at an Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 5, 2016, at Batavia Clarion Hotel, Batavia, New York; and

WHEREAS, P. W. Minor is receiving this auspicious award for its continued growth and commitment to Genesee County; and

WHEREAS, In 1867, two brothers, Peter Wycoff Minor and his brother, Abrahm, were making the long trek back from the Civil War to their home in Interlaken, New York; as they walked, they began to envision a company which hand-crafted quality shoes and boots for men and women; footwear which not only helped people stay on their feet, but also kept people comfortable as well as productive; and

WHEREAS, After making superior shoes for 150 years, the company began to flounder; in 2015, Andrew Young and Pete Zeliff purchased the assets of the company and are determined to restore this great brand; and

WHEREAS, Committed to its customer's health and wellness, P. W. Minor prides itself on being true shoemakers, understanding that its customers want comfort, fit, and style in their footwear; and

WHEREAS, The energetic and positive team of Andrew Young and Pete Zelif plan to rebuild this once great company by providing consistent availability of its products, and listening to its customers and acting on their requests, as well as update and add style to its product line; and

WHEREAS, Most importantly, P. W. Minor will strive to ensure excellent customer service and provide its customers with the sales support and programs they need; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, to help fulfill their vision, Andrew Young and Pete Zelif plan on bringing back production from China and creating more jobs; in April, the company received a substantial New York State-backed aid package to help move jobs from China back to Batavia with the goal of creating at least 100 jobs locally; they have already expanded the local staff by 25 new employees; and

WHEREAS, Two recent hires bring a great deal of experience to the rejuvenated company; Kristine McCarthy, a 1999 graduate of Batavia High School, arrived at P. W. Minor with 12 years of experience in accessories; and Erika Williamson, a former pattern maker from the Nike development center in Beaverton, Oregon; and

WHEREAS, 148 years later, the current owners and staff of P. W. Minor continue to craft comfortable and well-made shoes in their factory in Batavia, New York, and hope to expand and grow this long lasting business; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges this exceptional business and its contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident that it will thrive and enjoy sparkling success; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor P. W. Minor of Batavia, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year Award by the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Pete Zelif and Andrew Young, co-Owners, P. W. Minor.