

2015-J3495

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Honorable Jonathan Lippman upon the occasion of his retirement as Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals after many years of dedicated service

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those singular individuals who devote their purposeful lives and careers to preserving the rights and protecting the welfare of the citizens of their community and the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in the State of New York has been ably served and uniquely enriched through the selfless dedication and benevolent concern of Judge Jonathan Lippman; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Honorable Jonathan Lippman upon the occasion of his retirement as Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals after many years of dedicated service; this momentous occasion was celebrated on Monday, October 26, 2015, at the Brooklyn Museum; and

WHEREAS, A native of Manhattan, Jonathan Lippman graduated from New York University (NYU) in 1965, and received his law degree from the New York University School of Law in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious 48 year career, Judge Jonathan Lippman has served in several capacities; in 1989, he became the deputy chief administrator for management support of the New York State court system, and in 1995, he was appointed as judge of the New York Court of Claims; one year later he became New York's chief administrative judge, serving for 11 years, the longest anyone has spent in that position; and

WHEREAS, In 2005, Judge Jonathan Lippman was elected to the New York State Supreme Court for a 14 year term, and in May of 2007, then-Governor Eliot Spitzer appointed him to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Judicial Department; and

WHEREAS, On January 13, 2009, Governor David Paterson appointed Jonathan Lippman to the position of Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals, the esteemed position from which he officially retired on December 31, 2015; and

WHEREAS, During this time, Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman has been a steadfast advocate for increased attention to civil legal services and raising the age of adult criminal responsibility; in addition to creating the Task Force to Expand Access to Civil Legal Services in New York, he has increased funding to civil legal services, and enacted mandatory pro bono requirements for law students; and

WHEREAS, Throughout a life and career of purposeful endeavor, Judge Jonathan Lippman has remained true to his commitment, serving family, faith and community, as well as the law; his contributions and accomplishments have brought great benefit and positive influence to bear upon the course of jurisprudence and the quality of life for others; and

WHEREAS, Firm in his commitment, Judge Jonathan Lippman has remained dedicated to the betterment and progress of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Respected by both attorneys and defendants alike, Judge Jonathan Lippman always conducted an impartial and objective court; he treated all defendants with compassion and dignity while at the same time remaining fair in his rulings; and

WHEREAS, Judge Jonathan Lippman, in every capacity in which he served, has left his permanent mark on the criminal justice community and will forever be remembered as a determined, innovative and genuinely concerned expert in his field; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend The Honorable Jonathan Lippman upon the occasion of his retirement as Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals after many years of

dedicated service, and to extend its sincere gratitude for his continued contributions to the people of New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to The Honorable Jonathan Lippman.