

2015-J3577

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Rabbi Ronald Greenwald, distinguished citizen, religious leader and devoted community advocate

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those men and women of religious commitment who accept the responsibility of moral leadership and render the wisdom of human understanding; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Ronald "Ronnie" Greenwald died on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Born on January 8, 1934, in New York City, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald was a man who had a tremendous impact on all who knew him; he studied in the Telshe Yeshiva in Cleveland, Ohio, and eventually settled in New York after marrying his beloved Miriam; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, During his early years, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald worked as a teacher of Judaic and secular studies in multiple Brooklyn yeshivas; by the age of 28, he began to lobby the federal government on behalf of Torah Umesorah to promote Jewish schools; and

WHEREAS, By the 1970s, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald became so well-known he was tasked by a United States Representative to help secure the release of a Soviet dissident from prison; in addition, he made more than 25 trips across the "Iron Curtain", and helped negotiate the release of an Israeli citizen who was being held captive in Zimbabwe on espionage charges, as well as the release of a political activist who was imprisoned in Peru; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, includ-

ing charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, With a steadfast and unremitting commitment to Rockland County, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald founded the Monsey Academy for Girls, and served as chairman of the board of the Women's League; he also served on the Board of Governors of the Orthodox Union; and

WHEREAS, Tirelessly dedicated to Rockland County, the United States and Israel, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald was a mentor, diplomat, counselor, and teacher for all who knew him; his memory will remain in the hearts and minds of all those with whom he came in contact; and

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, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Rabbi Ronald Greenwald 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 Rabbi Ronald Greenwald, distinguished citizen, religious leader and devoted community advocate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Rabbi Ronald Greenwald.