

## 2015-J3713

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Adrian Ooms upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award by the New York Farm Bureau on December 10, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, The agricultural industry is part of the foundation upon which our distinct American heritage is built; New York State and the entire United States is dependent on our agricultural industry for a variety of food products; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Adrian Ooms upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award by the New York Farm Bureau celebrated on Thursday, December 10, 2015; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious award was bestowed upon Adrian Ooms for his incredible drive and commitment to the New York Farm Bureau and agriculture in this state; and

WHEREAS, In 1950, Adrian Ooms and his family immigrated to the United States from the Netherlands; two years later, he established a dairy farm with his father and brothers, continuing a family tradition dating back to the 1500s; and

WHEREAS, In 1978, Adrian Ooms and his brother assumed ownership of the Farm; currently, he manages A. Ooms and Sons Dairy Farm with three of his sons, Ron, Tim and Eric; and

WHEREAS, In the beginning, Adrian Ooms' farm consisted of just 300

acres and 55 cows; today, the A. Ooms and Sons Dairy Farm is comprised of a herd of 475 Holsteins and 2,000 acres of grass, alfalfa, and corn, from which the Ooms family produces all their own feed; and

WHEREAS, In 1956, A. Ooms and Sons Dairy Farm began selling milk to Agri-Mark; six decades later, with the help of his sons, and their children, as well as nine employees, the Farm produces more than 24,000 gallons of premium award-winning milk every week; and

WHEREAS, Adrian Ooms has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, Adrian Ooms has twice served as Columbia County Farm Bureau President, and has volunteered on the state Dairy and Membership Committees; in addition, he is a longtime member of the Cooperative Extension and local Agway co-op; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of our farmers as they continue their hard work of cultivating the land, facing the many challenges of nature such as flood, drought and heat, in order to grow our food; and

WHEREAS, Through his diligence and expertise in farming, Adrian Ooms has brought pride and recognition to himself, his local community, and to our great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Adrian Ooms upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award by the New York Farm Bureau on December 10, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Adrian Ooms.