

## 2015-J5420

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Don Brooks upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the New York State Office for the Aging on May 10, 2016

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Don Brooks upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the New York State Office for the Aging at its Annual Senior Citizens Day Celebration on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at the Hart Theatre Lounge in The Egg, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each May, the New York State Office for the Aging pauses to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by older citizens during National Older Americans Month; and

WHEREAS, Members of older generations have helped build and shape our Nation to be the greatest in the world; they have defended our freedoms and values to ensure that those who come after them may have better lives; nowhere in the Nation is the legacy of their efforts more visible and more a part of the lives of all citizens than here in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man 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, Born in Malone, New York on February 4, 1932, Don Brooks moved to Ellenburg Center in 1937, and graduated from Ellenburg Central in 1949; he attended Clarkson College for two years and transferred to SUNY Oswego, graduating in 1954; and

WHEREAS, Don Brooks valiantly served his country as a member of the United States Army during the Korean Conflict for two years; upon the completion of his military service he began his illustrious career teaching Industrial Arts at Greenwich Central in 1956; and

WHEREAS, After earning a Master's degree, Don Brooks relocated to Fallsburgh Central in Sullivan County where he served as a Guidance Counselor; he moved back to Greenwich where he continued as a Guidance Counselor, retiring in 1987 after many years of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, Don Brooks then went on to become a part-time Admissions Interviewer for Skidmore College for another 21 years; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to his community, Don Brooks has been on the Board of Directors for the American Cancer Society and Catholic Charities in Saratoga, while also serving as a representative to Greenwich Interfaith Fellowship from St. Joseph's where he coordinates the Bereavement Ministry; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Don Brooks has been an instructor for AARP's Safe Driving Course for ten years; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Don Brooks has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his first wife, Marcella, who passed away in 1981, and his present wife of 25 years, Mary Anne, six children, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Don Brooks has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Don Brooks, a very active and industrious man, has inspired and enriched the lives of those he serves through his volunteerism, generously sharing the wisdom gained over years of experiencing life to

its fullest; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Don Brooks upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the New York State Office for the Aging on May 10, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Don Brooks.