

## 2015-J5593

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Chef Zakary Pelaccio upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 James Beard Foundation Award for Best Chef Northeast on May 2, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Zakary Pelaccio upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 James Beard Foundation Award for Best Chef Northeast, celebrated on Monday, May 2, 2016, in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Ethics, passion and transformation are three words which define the work of Zakary Pelaccio; he is something more than just a chef; his ethics and conservation in the use of vegetables and animals that are locally grown are a model for all chefs and all those who love good food; and

WHEREAS, Famed for building Brooklyn's first gastro-pub, pioneering NYC's nose-to-tail culinary movement, urban foraging and bringing Malaysian inspired food to the National mainstream, Zakary Pelaccio and his wife and partner, moved upstate and opened their restaurant, Fish & Game, in Hudson, New York; and

WHEREAS, Fish & Game is located in a beautifully historic blacksmith shop, in the heart of New York's Hudson Valley; the award-winning restaurant celebrates the bounty of the Hudson Valley with a set menu which changes each week depending on the seasons and the availability of product from its farmers; and

WHEREAS, Fish & Game's vast wine list has a unique and dedicated focus

on natural wines from around the world and a cocktail menu which focuses on great classics, as well as seasonally focused libations; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his innovative work as a Chef, Zakary Pelaccio is the author of the groundbreaking cookbook entitled EAT WITH YOUR HANDS, which is comprised of Southeast Asian inspired, French and Italian-influenced food which celebrates getting your hands dirty in and out of the kitchen; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1990, the James Beard Foundation Awards recognize culinary professionals for excellence and achievement in their fields; these awards continue to emphasize the Foundation's mission: to celebrate, preserve, and nurture America's culinary heritage and diversity; and

WHEREAS, A cookbook author and teacher with an encyclopedic knowledge about food, the late James Beard was a champion of American cuisine; he helped educate and mentor generations of professional chefs and food enthusiasts; and

WHEREAS, Today, the James Beard Foundation continues in the spirit of its namesake by administering a number of diverse programs that include educational initiatives, food industry awards, scholarships to culinary schools, and publications, and by maintaining the historic James Beard House in New York City's Greenwich Village as a performance space for visiting chefs; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his professional service, a period of constructive involvement, Zakary Pelaccio has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and

sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Chef Zakary Pelaccio upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 James Beard Foundation Award for Best Chef Northeast on May 2, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Chef Zakary Pelaccio.