

## 2015-K1427

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Habitat for Humanity upon the occasion of constructing its 50th home in Schenectady County to commence in June of 2016

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those organizations and individuals within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary organizations it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This summer, Habitat for Humanity of Schenectady County will reach a major milestone as the organization begins construction on its 50th home; and

WHEREAS, As one of 1,500 affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International, Schenectady Habitat is a nonprofit organization that works throughout Schenectady County to bring generous donors and hardworking volunteers together with qualified, working families; the result is dramatic, positive differences in the lives of family members and in neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Schenectady Habitat has a long-standing reputation of working to eradicate poverty housing and to help provide low-income, working-class families with safe, decent and affordable homes within its community; and

WHEREAS, Since 1993, Schenectady Habitat has been dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes, as well as by advocating for fair and just housing

policies, and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their housing conditions; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of its Executive Director, Madelyn Thorne, Board President, Miriam Cajuste, Construction Manager, James Gekakis, and Community Relations Manager, Karen McLane, Schenectady Habitat enables non-home owning families the opportunity to own a home for about the same amount as they would pay for an apartment; and

WHEREAS, To date, Schenectady Habitat has helped 46 families achieve home ownership; by the end of 2016, its volunteers will complete five more homes for deserving families; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization constructs quality houses that are sold to home buyer families through no-profit loans; home buyers complete 400 sweat-equity hours and other requirements, pay for their homes and all upkeep, and maintain current payments on their properties; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, Habitat for Humanity of Schenectady County brings people together to build homes, communities and hope; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Habitat for Humanity upon the occasion of constructing its 50th home in Schenectady County to commence in June of 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Habitat for Humanity of Schenectady County.