

2017-J4002

Senate Resolution No. 4002

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMENDING Thomas H. McCarthy upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Buffalo Irish Center

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those individuals and organizations which foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Thomas H. McCarthy upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Buffalo Irish Center, to be celebrated at its 47th Annual Civic Luncheon on Saint Patrick's Day 2018; and

WHEREAS, Since 1970, the Buffalo Irish Center has strived to share its Irish heritage with the community; it is a gathering place for those of Irish descent as well as those who wish to learn more about the Irish culture; and

WHEREAS, The Buffalo Irish Center is one of the richest cultural and ethnic centers in Western New York, housing over a dozen non-profit organizations which highlight various aspects of Irish-American culture;

and

WHEREAS, In 1952, Thomas H. McCarthy graduated from Bishop Timon High School in Buffalo, New York; today, he supports his alma mater by working with the Hillery Foundation, which raises funds for graduating student scholarships; and

WHEREAS, Four years later, Thomas H. McCarthy earned his undergraduate degree from Canisius College; he furthered his education by attending The Simmons School of Mortuary Science; and

WHEREAS, After graduating, Thomas H. McCarthy founded the Thomas H. McCarthy Funeral Home, which has been in business for 60 years both at its original location at 1975 Seneca Street in South Buffalo, and its second location at 250 Orchard Park Road in West Seneca, New York; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his profession, Thomas H. McCarthy held the title of President of the Erie-Niagara Funeral Directors Association, and served on the New York State Funeral Director's Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Thomas H. McCarthy is an active and treasured member of his community; he holds the title of Lieutenant with Buffalo Professional Firefighters Local 282, and is a faithful congregant of St. Teresa's Parish, where he has served on the finance committee, and held the position of President of both the Parish Council and Holy Name Society; and

WHEREAS, Proud of his Irish heritage, Thomas H. McCarthy is a member of Msgr. Toomey Council 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Knights of Equity, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians; and

WHEREAS, For almost 60 years, Thomas H. McCarthy has belonged to the

Blackthorn Club, one of Buffalo's most exclusive fraternal organizations which encourages the camaraderie and connection of community members with Irish ancestry through social events; and

WHEREAS, Thomas H. McCarthy has personified the spirit of volunteerism, demonstrating a gift for leadership, a devotion to family, a commitment to his Irish heritage, and a determination to make his community a better place in which to live; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals 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 Thomas H. McCarthy upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Buffalo Irish Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Thomas H. McCarthy.