

## 2017-J4238

Senate Resolution No. 4238

BY: Senator YOUNG

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County and the Livingston County Farm Bureau

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the proud and distinguished histories of the people, communities and organizations which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County and the Livingston County Farm Bureau; and

WHEREAS, More than 100 years ago, the Broome County Chamber and the Lackawanna Railroad worried that an abundance of abandoned farms could draw on the prosperity of urban communities; they realized that all farmers should be offered the opportunities presented through modern science and practical agriculture, and wanted a method to enable farmers to learn about new discoveries and how to apply them; the USDA suggested placing a trained individual in each county to assist farmers, which would lead to the Land Grant System, designed to establish a state university in each state for disseminating the research information down to the county level; and

WHEREAS, In 1911, the first county agent was employed in Broome County - John Barron, Agronomy Professor at Cornell, who was from a farm family in Tuscarora, Livingston County; this new plan was important to ensure that farmers took an active role, which led to the formation of a Farm Bureau Membership in 1913; the partnership between farmers and the college endured and there were 37 County Farm Bureaus in 1917, with Livingston County joining in 1918; and

WHEREAS, The need in New York State for an Extension to be a strong educational agency and for the Farm Bureau to be a strong farm organization that could speak on controversial public issues, caused the two groups to mutually separate in 1956; The County Farm and Home Bureau and 4-H Club Association name was legally changed to County Extension Service Association with three departments - agricultural, home demonstration, and 4-H Club; as the rural population developed increasing needs, there have been several modifications; County agents and Cornell Specialists have provided educational information but left the job of control and development to organizations and farm leaders; and

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Extension system today is a unique achievement in American education with many countries who have attempted to duplicate it, but have yet to be successful; this is an agency for change and for problem solving, a catalyst for individual and group action with the history of over 100 years of public education and service; the Extension brings reward to higher education into the lives of all segments of communities across New York State; and

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Extension system offers programs that are all based on unbiased research and delivers programming in youth development, life skills, nutrition and health, agricultural sustainability, environmental education, job skills, and community

development; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize and honor milestones in the history of communities both large and small in this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County and the Livingston County Farm Bureau; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County and the Livingston County Farm Bureau.