

## 2017-J4979

Senate Resolution No. 4979

BY: Senator BRESLIN

COMMENDING the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region upon the occasion of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of its building on 21 First Street in Troy, New York, on May 8, 2018

WHEREAS, From time to time, society calls upon individuals and organizations to be recognized for the significance of their contributions and efforts to assist others in developing the skills necessary to be successful, productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the custom of this Legislative Body to commend the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region upon the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of its building on 21 First Street in Troy, New York, to be celebrated at an event on Tuesday, May 8, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Since it first opened its doors to the public on May 8, 1918, this building has been the start of a positive change for

thousands of local women and families; and

WHEREAS, The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) is one of the oldest and largest women's organizations in the nation, serving more than two million women, girls and their families; and

WHEREAS, Staying true to its mission of eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, dignity and freedom for all, the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region (GCR) is part of a national and international movement working to advance the quality of life for women and their families; and

WHEREAS, Women come to YWCA-GCR in times of crisis, for safe and affordable housing, help with basic needs, such as food and clothing, victim advocacy, help with addiction, job training and career counseling, and case management in order to empower them to be able to achieve their goals and to become self-sufficient; and

WHEREAS, Each and every single woman that enters through the doors of this historical building receives hope; and

WHEREAS, YWCA-GCR helps women prepare for school and employment through economic advancement programs, and provides affordable, safe and supportive transitional and permanent housing, food security services, homelessness prevention and advocates for both gender and racial equity; and

WHEREAS, YWCA-GCR's supportive services are available to and are utilized by community members through My Sister's Closet, Jamison-Rounds

Ready for Work Employment Training Program, Jamison-Rounds Ready for School Program, and its Food Pantry and Weekly Community Meal; it also

provides homeless prevention and case management services to Rensselaer County residents facing eviction; and

WHEREAS, The success of YWCA-GCR is in direct correlation to the efforts of its Executive Director Daquetta Jones, and her staff, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its storied history, YWCA-GCR has been in the forefront of most major movements in the United States as a pioneer in race relations, labor union representation, and the empowerment of women; 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 citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region upon the occasion of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of its building on 21 First Street in Troy, New York, on May 8, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Daquetta Jones, Executive Director, YWCA of the Greater Capital Region.