

## 2017-J5389

Senate Resolution No. 5389

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Linda Birnby upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Woman of Valor Award by Congregation Agudat Achim on June 3, 2018

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, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Linda Birnby upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Woman of Valor Award by Congregation Agudat Achim to be feted at its Shomrei Kehillah Awards Celebration on Sunday, June 3, 2018, in Schenectady, New York; and

WHEREAS, Congregation Agudat Achim is committed to a traditional pattern of Jewish worship, while sensitive to the spiritual needs of its congregates; it provides opportunities for worship and study to members of all ages; and

WHEREAS, A warm, welcoming conservative, egalitarian synagogue located in Schenectady, New York, Agudat Achim consists of members of

all ages and levels of observance; and

WHEREAS, Linda Birnby is receiving this prestigious award for her steadfast and unremitting commitment to her community; and

WHEREAS, Linda Birnby earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology from the University of Vermont; throughout her long and distinguished career, she has conducted clinical or medical research work at many hospitals including the New England Baptist Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts; Kaplan Hospital, Rehovot, Israel; NIH in Bethesda, Maryland; Sunnyview Hospital, Schenectady, New York; and Albany Medical College, the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center, and Albany College of Pharmacy in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, On his 30th Birthday, Linda Birnby married her late husband, Marty, and for the next 20 years, she was a stay-at-home mom; and

WHEREAS, During that 20 year break, Linda Birnby volunteered with the LWV in Schenectady and the YWCA women's shelter; in the early 1980s, she began serving Congregation Agudat Achim with the Reyut, which responds to congregant's requests for help, for things such as funeral meal preparation, home and hospital visits, rides for medical appointments, going to services or programs at the synagogue and more; Linda has arranged for hundreds of rides through the years, quietly going about her business and doing what needs to be done; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Linda Birnby has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who

enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence 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 honor Linda Birnby upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Woman of Valor Award by Congregation Agudat Achim on June 3, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Linda Birnby.