

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Sullivan County Community College

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of commitment and high achievement whose purpose and endeavors fully demonstrate a dedication to the pursuit of excellence in education and service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concerns, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Sullivan County Community College; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County Community College (SUNY Sullivan) welcomed its first freshman class on September 23, 1963; it was established largely due to the joint efforts of local citizens, who conducted surveys and advocated the creation of a college, and the Sullivan County Board of Supervisors, who saw the desirability and need for a community college in Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of the last 50 years, SUNY Sullivan has grown from a faculty of nine and a student body of 72 enrolled in three programs in its first year of operation, to a full and part-time enrollment of more than 1,700 students in 32 degree and eight certificate programs in 2012; and

WHEREAS, SUNY Sullivan is committed to maintaining a strong liberal arts core curriculum and equipping students with the tools for 21st Century careers; available areas of study include computer graphics/graphic design, which is taught in the new graphics art lab, culinary arts, nursing, criminal justice, and Green Building Maintenance and Management; and

WHEREAS, SUNY Sullivan faculty and staff have earned numerous awards and citations for excellence in education, including more than 20 SUNY Chancellor's Awards; and

WHEREAS, Some of SUNY Sullivan's notable alumni include: Gene Simmons, co-founder, bassist, singer and songwriter of the rock band KISS; Rafael "Dose" Vargas, rapper in the Dominican hip hop group 2 In A Room, now known as Fulanito; and Joey Altman, American chef, restaurateur and TV host on the Food Network and winner of the James Beard Award in 2000, 2001, and 2006; and

WHEREAS, SUNY Sullivan is situated on 405 acres of land and its campus features nine interconnected buildings, the Paul Gerry Field house, the Lazarus Levine Residence Hall and the EcoGreen Townhouses; a geo-thermal system provides heat and air conditioning for the campus, underscoring the College's commitment to environmental and social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, In February 2012, Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom began her term as SUNY Sullivan's sixth president, helming the College as it focuses on the future by continuing to adopt more sustainable practices, creating new and exciting curriculums and continuing to foster strong, lasting bonds within and outside of the community; and

WHEREAS, Facing the rapid change and ever-increasing challenges of the 21st Century, Sullivan County Community College stands prepared to reach out, in earnest and enthusiastic quest of its mission, to promote the maximum growth of every student, establishing standards and building skills which will carry its students and the citizens of its community into the future; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that when an educational institution of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Sullivan County Community College;
and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, Sullivan County Community College.