

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Debbie Gatoff upon the occasion of receiving the Gemilut Chasadim Award from Congregation Beth Israel

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 Debbie Gatoff upon the occasion of receiving the Gemilut Chasadim Award from Congregation Beth Israel on Sunday, May 5, 2013, in Schenectady, New York; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Gatoff grew up in Congregation Beth Israel and its Hebrew School; a graduate of Linton High School, she was active in National Conference of Synagogue Youth; and

WHEREAS, After her second year at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut, Debbie Gatoff decided to take a two-week trip to Israel, fell in love with the country, and stayed for three years; she worked there as a child care provider in a Children's House on Kibbutz Ein Hamifratz in northern Israel; and

WHEREAS, Walking in the footsteps of her parents, Debbie Gatoff has been an extraordinarily active member of Congregation Beth Israel for many years; she taught Hebrew School, is an active member of the Sisterhood, and has served as President and long-term Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Gatoff has been an integral part of the catering team at Congregation Beth Israel for many years; she is a member of the synagogue Board of Trustees and has served as Congregation Financial Secretary, Vice President and President; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Gatoff served on many rabbinical search committees and has been actively involved in fund-raising; she is currently serving, once again as a Vice President of the shul and Treasurer of the Sisterhood; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Gatoff has worked full-time as the Office Manager for Capital Management Partners for many years, but has found time to be active in the greater community as well; from 1986-1989, she served on the Schenectady Board of Education, including one year as its President; and

WHEREAS, Working as a volunteer usher at Proctor's Theater for many years, Debbie Gatoff is the granddaughter of Abraham and Jenny Deiber and the daughter of Jack and Gwen Deiber; she is a third generation member of Congregation Beth Israel; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Gatoff's children, Jason and Sarah, the fourth generation, were also raised in the synagogue; Debbie is the proud grandmother of Jack and Bridget; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Gatoff has demonstrated the true spirit of the Gemilut Chasadim Award, which means "deeds of loving kindness," through her tireless dedication to the Synagogue and to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Debbie Gatoff upon the occasion of receiving the Gemilut Chasadim Award from Congregation Beth Israel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Debbie Gatoff.