

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Arc of Schuyler upon the occasion of the celebration of its 35th Anniversary

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities of New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of organizations and individuals who devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry and have made strong contributions to the disability community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Arc of Schuyler of Watkins Glen, New York, upon the occasion of the celebration of its 35th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion will be celebrated at The Arc of Schuyler's Annual Meeting and Member Reception to be held at the Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel on Thursday, May 16, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Arc of Schuyler is a family-based organization providing supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism; and

WHEREAS, The Arc of Schuyler is a chapter of NYSARC, Inc., a not for profit organization which works with and for people with developmental disabilities in New York State; through NYSARC, The Arc of Schuyler is an affiliated chapter of The Arc of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Arc of Schuyler promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, The Arc of Schuyler envisions a future in which all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are fully included as members of a community which embraces the diversity of all people, and values people for who they are in a safe and caring environment; and

WHEREAS, The Arc of Schuyler was founded in 1978 by the parents and family members of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; prior to the organization of The Arc of Schuyler, parents had limited choices for supports within their own communities and had to send their loved ones to surrounding communities, sometimes more than two hours away, to receive even basic supports; and

WHEREAS; Some families were forced to send their children to institutions throughout New York State; and

WHEREAS, These courageous parents learned from neighboring communities how to form an organization which would meet the needs of their family members with disabilities, and in 1978, The Arc of Schuyler was chartered in Watkins Glen, New York by NYSARC, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, From its modest beginning of providing vocational programs for a small group of adults, The Arc of Schuyler has become a comprehensive provider of supports to hundreds of people with disabilities and their families; and

WHEREAS, The Arc of Schuyler continues to be governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, most of whom are parents or relatives of a person with a developmental disability; the remaining board members are community leaders whose insight and experience provide assistance and direction to ensure The Arc of Schuyler is integrated into the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend The Arc of Schuyler upon the occasion of the celebration of its 35th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Arc of Schuyler, Watkins Glen, New York.

