

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2013 Business of the Year Award by the New York State Agricultural Society

WHEREAS, The agricultural industry is part of the foundation upon which our distinct American heritage is built; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes great pride in acknowledging outstanding individuals and businesses associated with the agricultural industry which clearly contribute to the spirit of excellence that so distinguishes the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2013 Business of the Year Award by the New York State Agricultural Society; and

WHEREAS, The auspicious Business of the Year Award was created by the New York State Agricultural Society in 2001; its aim is to promote New York's food system and recognize the quality, leadership and innovation demonstrated by New York agribusinesses; and

WHEREAS, Owners Oscar and Melinda Vizcarra operate the farm alongside their three children, Amanda, Andres, and Oscar Jr.; today, they continue to expand with recent developments including a Community Supported Agriculture program, 100-Mile Radius Meals and a new wedding and event venue; and

WHEREAS, Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards, located in the Town of Gasport, Niagara County, was founded in 1894 by Julius and Augusta Becker; from its roots as a livestock, fruit and vegetable farm, the Vizcarra Family has expanded the business to include a winery, microbrewery, tours and private events; and

WHEREAS, Becker Farms is a 340-acre working fruit and vegetable farm that has, for the past 100 years, harvested its own fruits and vegetables to provide fresh produce and a wide variety of products; this thriving Farm proudly sells its products directly to the public; and

WHEREAS, Innovation, industry leadership, progressive management and a true love of fruit and vegetable farming have kept the Vizcarra Family farming for five generations, and have justly earned them a New York State Agricultural Society 2013 Business of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those family-owned and operated businesses which 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 Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2013 Business of the Year Award by the New York State Agricultural Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Vizcarra Family.