

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Frank E. Berrish upon the occasion of his retirement after 37 years of distinguished service as President and CEO of Visions Federal Credit Union

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Frank E. Berrish upon the occasion of his retirement after 37 years of distinguished service as President and CEO of Visions Federal Credit Union, headquartered in Endicott, New York; he will officially retire on April 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Visions Federal Credit Union is a member owned cooperative and today, is one of the only locally owned financial institutions in its community; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of President and CEO Frank E. Berrish, Visions Federal Credit Union grew from a credit union with \$25 million in assets, three branches, and serving only IBM employees and their families, to one of the largest financial institutions in its community; and

WHEREAS, Today, Visions Federal Credit Union has assets of over \$3.2 billion, serving approximately 158,000 members, with 31 branches located throughout Central New York, portions of Rochester and Syracuse, New York, Northern Pennsylvania, and Northern New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable leader's distinguished life began in Windsor, New York, where his family owned a motel and he learned the skills of running a business at a very young age; and

WHEREAS, Frank E. Berrish was a graduate of Windsor High School, Broome Community College, and Southeastern University in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduation from college, Frank E. Berrish moved back to the Southern Tier where he became employed in banking and in 1975 became the CEO and President of the credit union now known as VISIONS; and

WHEREAS, He led the credit union while making Economic Development a primary cause while also donating thousands of hours to numerous non-profits and service to local boards; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure as President and CEO of Visions Federal Credit Union, Frank E. Berrish also spent many years as a major advocate for the credit union industry to assure credit unions continued to be a strong component of the financial industry; and

WHEREAS, Because of this passion for credit unions and what they offered to all Americans, he was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU) in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, During his two terms on the Board, Frank E. Berrish was able to continuously fight for all the causes that made a difference to the credit union industry as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, Frank E. Berrish represented his community by holding a position on the Federal Reserve Board Thrift Institutions' Advisory Board (TIAC); and

WHEREAS, Frank E. Berrish has been enshrined in the Credit Union "Hall of Leaders", Washington, D.C., due to his talents and leadership qualities; and

WHEREAS, Frank E. Berrish, by fulfilling the creed of VISIONS Federal Credit Union, "People Helping People", has allowed generations of members and the communities they call home to benefit in many ways; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blend-

ing of strength, leadership, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by Frank E. Berrish over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, 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 commend Frank E. Berrish upon the occasion of his retirement after 37 years of distinguished service as President and CEO of Visions Federal Credit Union; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Frank E. Berrish.