

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Gerald Didio upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition as the oldest member of the Utica Comity Club

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Gerald Didio upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition as the oldest member of the Utica Comity Club; and

WHEREAS, The oldest member of the Utica, New York, Comity Club, Gerald "Gerry" Didio was born in Utica, New York, on February 28, 1910; he was the fourth of seven children of Michael and Grazia Didio; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Utica Free Academy in 1928, Gerry Didio was the Captain of the baseball team; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Didio was instrumental in promoting sports programs for the youth of Utica; he was active in the Utica Sports Boosters, serving on a committee which first brought Little League baseball to the City, and was the founder and first president of the Cornhill Youth Association; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Gerry Didio was influential in persuading the City of Utica to convert a dumping ground on Arthur Street into the famous O'Connor Playground; and

WHEREAS, A committed citizen of Utica, Gerry Didio became interested and active in the affairs of senior citizens; as chairperson of a subcommittee on aging, he assisted in the establishment of Senior Day Centers in North Utica, East Utica and at the Adrean Terrace; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Didio was the owner of Gerald's Men Shop in downtown Utica for 32 years; he also was a former President of the Downtown Utica Merchants Association; and

WHEREAS, A prominent sports official as a member of the Mohawk Valley Umpires Association, Gerry Didio was also a talented violinist, and a member of the Utica Symphony Orchestra for 60 years; he played with the Con Amore Strings and the Little Falls, New York, Symphony, as well; and

WHEREAS, Married to the late Lena Camarata Didio, Gerry and his wife were the proud parents of three attractive daughters, Grace, Paula and Mary Lou; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize and commend those who have witnessed and contributed to the developments and achievements of our Nation, State, and communities over the course of their noteworthy lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Gerald Didio upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition as the oldest member of the Utica Comity Club; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Gerald Didio.