LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring John J. Gray, Jr., upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Citizen Award by SUNY Canton

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavors serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor John J. Gray upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Citizen Award by SUNY Canton; and

WHEREAS, Since 1976, the SUNY Canton College Council has given the Distinguished Citizen Award in recognition of exceptional and distinguished service to SUNY Canton, to the community, to the State and to the Nation; and

WHEREAS, John Gray received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Clarkson University, and is a managing partner of Gray and Gray Certified Public Accountants in Canton; and

WHEREAS, John Gray resides in Colton, with his wife, Christine and their four children; and

WHEREAS, John Gray is being recognized for his decades of public service and dedication to the area's economic development and has worked tirelessly in his community to make Canton and the North Country a better place to live and work; and

WHEREAS, John Gray has helped develop long-range economic development goals for his community, through his work on the Canton Economic Development Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, John Gray has provided his expertise to the Canton Chamber of Commerce, where he has served as treasurer since 2004; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding individual has sponsored numerous exhibits with the Traditional Arts in Upstate New York, a not-for-profit folk arts organization in Canton, and was instrumental in transforming an abandoned building in Canton into professional office space; and

WHEREAS, John Gray serves as treasurer for the St. Lawrence Childcare Council, as well as a member of the Town of Colton Planning Board, and the SUNY Canton Business Advisory Board; he is also active in his church, where he donates his time to assist with events, and as a consultant on financial matters; and

WHEREAS, John Gray deserves to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for his service and for his dedication to his community, his State and his Nation; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor John J. Gray, Jr., upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Citizen Award by SUNY Canton; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John J. Gray, Jr.