

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Gregory T. DeCinque upon the occasion of his retirement as President of Jamestown Community College

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor Dr. Gregory T. DeCinque upon the occasion of his retirement as President of Jamestown Community College; and

WHEREAS, Dr. DeCinque graduated with a bachelor's degree in Social Science from Montclair State College; he continued his education at New York University where he completed a master's degree in Educational Administration, and he earned his Ph.D. in Educational Administration at the University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS, In 1982, Dr. DeCinque received a Richardson Fellowship at the University of Texas; three years later, he received an American Council on Education Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Dr. DeCinque has a well-established record of achievement focused on education; he was responsible for the planning and development of the Advanced Technology Center at Brookdale Community College, and was named a Founding Father of the High Technology High School in Lincroft, New Jersey, in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Dr. DeCinque began his service in 1994 as Jamestown Community College's seventh president; his leadership was especially important during a time where the College faced the challenges of declining enrollment and funding; and

WHEREAS, Under the guidance of Dr. DeCinque, Jamestown Community College was regionalized, moving from sole sponsorship by the city of Jamestown, to also including sponsorship by Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties; and

WHEREAS, Another hallmark of Dr. DeCinque's presidency has been the expansion of the opportunities provided by Jamestown Community College within the region; the North County Extension Center and the North County Training and Conference facility were opened in Dunkirk, New York; a \$31 million campus in Olean, New York, was constructed; the College, in conjunction with the Olean YMCA, also established a shared athletic and recreation facility to serve the Olean community; and

WHEREAS, With a focus on creating regional educational and workforce training opportunities, Dr. DeCinque oversaw the establishment of a partnership with the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier to create the Manufacturing Technology Institute and the creation of a number of new degree and certificate programs including biotechnology, environmental science, entrepreneurship, occupational therapy assistant, professional piloting and welding technology; and

WHEREAS, With Dr. DeCinque's leadership, the College became a residential campus, opening it to over 200 students from outside the area; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure at Jamestown Community College, Dr. DeCinque's vision and leadership has made a profoundly positive impact on the College and within the community; his dedication and deep conviction to the importance of a strong community college within the local community cannot be overstated; and

WHEREAS, Dr. DeCinque is the longest-serving president in the history of the 62-year-old community college; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to community service, Dr. DeCinque shares his time and talents with numerous community organizations, including the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier, Chautauqua County Indus-

trial Development Agency, WCA Advisory Group, Chautauqua County Work-

force Investment Board, Far West Council of Superintendents, United Way of Southern Chautauqua County, Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, and the Jamestown Strategic Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Dr. DeCinque and his wife, Laura, have been blessed with two sons, Ryan and Spencer; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body observes that special recognition should be given to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities and for their profound commitment to education in this great Empire State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. Gregory T. DeCinque for his service as President of Jamestown Community College; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Gregory T. DeCinque.