

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Peggy Liuzzi upon the occasion of her retirement after 27 years of distinguished service to Child Care Solutions

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is proud to honor Peggy Liuzzi upon the occasion of her retirement after 27 years of distinguished service to Child Care Solutions; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Liuzzi has worked more than 40 years in early care and education and has spent the past 27 years at Child Care Solutions in Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Liuzzi joined Child Care Solutions in 1986 as its Assistant Director and was named Executive Director in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Child Care Solutions, a resource and referral agency for child care in Onondaga and Cayuga counties, was founded as a not-for-profit organization in 1975; and

WHEREAS, The staff at Child Care Solutions strives to coordinate, assist and strengthen child care services in the Central New York community through advocacy, education, networking, referrals and the support of high quality child care and early education programs; and

WHEREAS, In her 22 years as Executive Director of Child Care Solutions, Peggy Liuzzi has proven herself to be a tireless advocate for all children, while simultaneously earning community-wide respect; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her career, Peggy Liuzzi has worked to increase the number of children and families in Central New York who have access to high quality early care and learning programs; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Liuzzi grew up the oldest of five children in the Capital district, where she attended Colonie High School; and

WHEREAS, Following high school, Peggy Liuzzi earned her Bachelor's degree in English Literature from Syracuse University, graduating cum laude; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Syracuse University, Peggy Liuzzi continued her education at both Syracuse University and SUNY Cortland, taking courses in Early Childhood Education; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Liuzzi began her early care and education career as a cook at Plymouth Day Care, and was soon thereafter named Director; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Liuzzi formerly chaired the Pres-X Committee, a group of executives from human service agencies throughout Onondaga County, by virtue of which she became recognized as being both a knowledgeable and outstanding advocate for children's issues; and

WHEREAS, A visionary of her time, Peggy Liuzzi led a grassroots campaign to form the Onondaga County Child Care Council, which is today Child Care Solutions; and

WHEREAS, As Executive Director of Child Care Solutions, Peggy Liuzzi constantly envisions and implements new programs to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, During her 27 year tenure, Peggy Liuzzi has orchestrated and overseen tremendous growth of the organization, increasing the number of employees from only three to 36 and offering an expanded menu of programs to carry out the core mission of Child Care Solutions; and

WHEREAS, Due to the growth of Child Care Solutions, the agency was in need of new quarters and in December 2004, moved to a new facility; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Liuzzi's expertise is often sought and she serves as a member of the New York State Child Care Coordinating Council, Success by

6, and The Human Services Leadership Council and her past affiliations

include the New York State Early Care and Education Blueprint Initiative, the Children's Court House Center Advisory Committee for the Salvation Army, the Onondaga County Child Assistance Program Advisory Board, and the New York State Department of Social Services Day Care Advisory Committee, among others; and

WHEREAS, She has been honored as a 2010 Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate, a 2011 Champion for Children by the New York State Association for the Education of Young Children, and she has received the Social Justice Leadership Award for Early Childhood Education from the Association for Communities Transforming Syracuse; and

WHEREAS, When not pursuing her life's work, Peggy Liuzzi spends time with her three daughters Eliza, Anna, and Carla; and

WHEREAS, An incredibly devoted advocate, Peggy Liuzzi plans to continue her advocacy for young children even following her retirement from Child Care Solutions; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 27 years, Peggy Liuzzi has given much to her community, and the children and child care providers who mean so much to her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Peggy Liuzzi upon the occasion of her retirement after 27 years of service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Peggy Liuzzi.