

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of The Honorable Frank Sedita, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those singular individuals who devoted their purposeful lives to preserving the rights and protecting the welfare of the citizens of their community and the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to mourn the death of The Honorable Frank A. Sedita, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community, who died at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, The son of three-term Buffalo Mayor Frank A. Sedita, and the father of Erie County District Attorney Frank A. Sedita III, Frank A. Sedita, Jr. was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, and attended the Buffalo Public School System; and

WHEREAS, He went on to graduate summa cum laude from Canisius College of Buffalo, New York, before earning his law degree from the University of Buffalo; Frank A. Sedita, Jr. was then admitted to the New York State Bar in 1961; and

WHEREAS, During Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr.'s extensive legal practice in the office of the City of Buffalo Corporation Counsel, he developed substantial expertise in the area of education law, serving for many years as Counsel to the city's Board of Education; he also worked as a private practice attorney, specializing in trial, matrimonial and family law until 1968; and

WHEREAS, Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr.'s esteemed career on the bench began in the mid-1970s, upon his election as an Associate Judge of the Buffalo City Court; following successful service as a Judge of the Erie County Family Court, he was elected as Chief Judge of the Buffalo City Court where he made a strong impact restoring the court's profile to its rightful level of prominence; and

WHEREAS, From 1992-1994, he served as the Housing Court Judge where he earned acclaim for his strict housing reform; he toured dilapidated buildings, imposed deadlines for repairs and increased fines on delinquent property owners, becoming known as "Maximum Frank"; and

WHEREAS, For the better part of almost two decades, Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr. served with tremendous distinction as a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, completing a 10-year term and serving three additional two-year extensions on senior status until he reached the mandatory retirement age of 76; and

WHEREAS, Following retirement, Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr. joined Counsel Financial Services, which provides respected litigators across the country the financial power they need to maximize verdicts and settlements, adding to his countless contributions to the justice system; and

WHEREAS, For his tireless efforts, Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr. was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, some of which include THE BUFFALO NEWS Outstanding Citizen Award, The Buffalo Urban League Stewardship Award, and the West Side Business Association's Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his son, Frank A. Sedita III, Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr. is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Marilyn Hemstock Sedita; and

WHEREAS, Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr.'s career as an attorney and jurist was one of great substance which will long be remembered, as will his significant contributions as a public servant to the community he so cherished throughout his life; he will be greatly missed by all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

mourn the death of The Honorable Frank Sedita, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of The Honorable Frank Sedita, Jr.