LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Claude Long upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Outstanding Bellman of the Year Award, by the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that individuals who distinguish themselves in their profession, dedicating themselves to its enhancement and leading it in new directions, are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Claude Long of the Albany Hilton Hotel upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Outstanding Bellman of the Year Award, by the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association; to be celebrated at the Stars of the Industry Gala Dinner on March 3, 2014, at the Marriott Hotel in Colonie, New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association nominated 200 members in ten categories and included hospitality workers from 1,200 member hotels across the state; Claude Long stood out in a highly competitive field that included some of the best bellmen from world-class New York City hotels; and

WHEREAS, In a career spanning 15 years at the Albany Hilton, this remarkable man has become known for his kindness, work ethic, and professionalism; whether dealing with celebrities, politicians or ordinary people, Claude Long is noted for brightening up people's days; and

WHEREAS, Claude Long trained in the hospitality industry at the Schuyler Inn in Menands, New York, overcoming much adversity; his achievement is an inspiration to all of those seeking to be the best in their profession; and

WHEREAS, Claude Long's many duties include greeting new arrivals and assisting them throughout their stay in the Albany area; he is responsible for the hotel shuttle which transports guests to and from the airport and train station and, he is often the first and last face customers see; and

WHEREAS, Claude Long's dedication, attention to detail and willingness to go beyond the call of duty has not gone unnoticed; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his longtime partner, Constance Brown, and their daughter, Liyana Long, as well as many friends and co-workers, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his devotion, commitment and efforts on behalf of his community and his profession, it is the custom of this Legislative Body to extend its highest commendation to Claude Long; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Claude Long upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Outstanding Bellman of the Year Award, by the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Claude Long.