

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of The Walton Theatre, to be celebrated on June 14, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that the quality of life of the citizens of the State of New York is greatly enriched by its exceptional cultural, educational and recreational institutions; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concerns, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Walton Theatre, to be celebrated at a community-wide event in Walton, New York, on Saturday, June 14, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The Walton Theatre held its grand opening on April 21, 1914; it replaced an earlier building destroyed by fire, which had housed the village hall, opera house, and fire department; and

WHEREAS, In its early days, this esteemed institution featured lavish musical and dramatic productions, movies, and circuses; it also hosted such notable speakers as President Theodore Roosevelt; and

WHEREAS, The Walton Theatre has been a true touchstone of its community, hosting numerous class nights, graduations, and other such events over the years; in addition, it has also been the site of many reunions; and

WHEREAS, In 1984, the Walton Theatre was placed on the National Register of Historical Places in recognition of its distinguished place in the history of our country; and

WHEREAS, Two years later, a theater restoration group, now known as the Walton Theatre Preservation Committee, was formed to bring the venerable building back to its former glory; its extensive and ongoing improvements include restoring the lobby, replacing the stained glass windows in the foyer, and installing state-of-the-art equipment to show first-run movies with modern digital film and sound quality; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the help of its many volunteers and donors, the Walton Theatre endures as a centerpiece of community life in the village of Walton, showcasing the performance arts for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, As the Walton Theatre looks back with great pride to its beginnings, viewing, with just satisfaction, its successful evolution, it renews both its dedication to supporting artistic excellence, and its commitment to the community it has served since 1914, expressing its appreciation to all those who have helped to sustain and enhance it over the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Walton Theatre; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Walton Theatre.