

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Mary Jane Bertram upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation on June 5, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the efforts of individuals who distinguish themselves in service to the cause of working men and women in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Mary Jane Bertram upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation; she will be honored at its 8th Annual Labor Heroes Celebration on Thursday, June 5, 2014, at The Clubhouse at Patriot Hills, Stony Point, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jane Bertram, Hudson Valley Regional Director of the Workforce Development Institute (WDI), is the recipient of the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation's 2014 Mother Jones Award; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jane Bertram was born in Burlington, Vermont, and has lived all over the country; this committed activist got her first opportunity to take a stand as a high school student in Idaho Falls, Idaho, as a representative on the Title IX committee advocating for equality in funding for female athletic programs, and also as a leader in the fight that allowed drama, debate, and speech teams to earn school letters, just like boys football and basketball teams; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, Mary Jane Bertram became an organizer with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) in the Southern states; in 2002, she moved to the State of New York and organized the Dutchess ARC for SEIU Local 200United; she was elected a Vice President for the Hudson Catskill CLC, and served on the Executive Board of the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jane Bertram joined the WDI in 2008, and serves on the Executive Board of the Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board, as well as the Hudson Valley Mt. Sinai Occupational Clinic Board; in addition, she volunteers as the New York State representative for the National Chronic Myeloid Leukemia Society, serving on its Patient Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Steve, their six children, and four grandsons, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Mary Jane Bertram upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation's 2014 Mother Jones Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mary Jane Bertram.