

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating September 2013, as Lifelong Learning Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor those illustrious organizations of the State of New York whose purposeful endeavors serve to enhance the quality of life for the cherished senior citizens in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate September 2013, as Lifelong Learning Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Academy for Lifelong Learning at Saratoga Springs (A.L.L.), founded in October of 1992, as the Academy for Learning in Retirement at Saratoga Springs (ALR), will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary with a year-long commemoration which began on July 1, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Carrying out this year's theme "Nourish Your Body, Nourish Your Mind", many special events and programs as well as thematic study groups will be offered throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, The Academy for Lifelong Learning is a nonprofit member-driven organization of mature learners who share a love of participatory learning; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization is an independent entity, sponsored by SUNY Empire State College and affiliated with the Elderhostel Institute Network; and

WHEREAS, New York State is the home to 25 lifelong learning institutes which have approximately 10,000 seniors as members; and

WHEREAS, Often sponsored by colleges, universities or museums, lifelong learning programs are member-driven educational organizations, where the volunteers serve on committees to govern the organizations and lead study groups; and

WHEREAS, Lifelong learning programs provide stimulating educational, leadership and social opportunities for seniors in the community; and

WHEREAS, Over 76 million Baby Boomers are preparing to reinvent retirement, which will dramatically increase the demand for educational and volunteer opportunities that lifelong learning programs provide; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate September 2013, as Lifelong Learning Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jo-Ellen Unger, Executive Director, The Academy for Lifelong Learning at Saratoga Springs, SUNY Empire State College.