

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Barbara Fiala upon the occasion of her retirement as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles after many years of distinguished public service

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who are devoted to the welfare of their community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Barbara Fiala upon the occasion of her retirement as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles after many years of distinguished public service; and

WHEREAS, Born to Arthur and Mary Testani in Binghamton, New York, as the youngest of nine children, Barbara Fiala received her education at Broome Community College and Binghamton University; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Fiala began her illustrious career in public service in 1998, when she became the first woman elected to the countywide office of County Clerk; she held this position until 2004, during which time she was elected as the first female Broome County Executive; and

WHEREAS, Sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom she worked, Barbara Fiala will be remembered for her honesty, integrity, keen sense of duty and ability to show a unique grasp of human problems in her official acts; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Fiala was appointed by the Governor of New York State as Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in February of 2011; during her four year tenure in this esteemed position, Barbara was instrumental in the agency's considerable shift toward offering services online; and

WHEREAS, Elected as President of the New York State Association of County Executives, Barbara Fiala currently serves as a Board Member of the New York Association of Counties and Broome County Industrial Development Agency as well as the County Executives of America where she is also President-elect; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she is a Committee Member of the National Association of Counties, Treasurer at the American Civic Association in Binghamton, and member of both the Order Sons of Italy in America and the Binghamton Breakfast Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Anthony, their two sons, Anthony Jr. and V. James, and two grandsons, Nathan and Nicholas, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, leadership, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by Barbara Fiala over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Barbara Fiala upon the occasion of her retirement as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles after many years of distinguished public service, and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Barbara Fiala.