LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Pure Waters Bond Act on May 12, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious achievements made by this body for the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Pure Waters Bond Act; and

WHEREAS, Governor Nelson Rockefeller and the Legislature recognized that many of our waterways were littered with untreated human waste, industrial chemicals and agricultural runoff; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature passed the Pure Waters Bond Act on May 5, 1965, and it was signed into law on May 12, 1965, giving the voters of New York State final say on its adoption in November of 1965; and

WHEREAS, 81 percent of New Yorkers voted in favor of the Pure Waters Bond Act that paid for needed sewage treatment facilities that helped to provide clean water for decades; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Pure Waters Bond Act of 1965 was a model for the nation, inspiring the Federal Clean Water Act of 1972, which mandated tough controls on municipal and industrial waste and provided billions of dollars of Federal aid; and

WHEREAS, The Pure Waters Bond Act was used as a model for the Clean Water and Clean Air Bond Act of 1996 that was signed into law by Governor George Pataki, furthering investment into the protection of our environment and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to pay tribute to Governor Nelson Rockefeller and the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when legislative achievements of such noble aims and accomplishment 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 commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Pure Waters Bond Act of 1965 on May 12, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Governor Nelson Rockefeller.