

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Rita Franconere upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Faith Based Service Lifetime Achievement Award by the Capital District Senior Issues Forum on October 7, 2015

WHEREAS, Spiritual guidance and nurturing are of great import to the vitality and well-being of all people and every community of this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rita Franconere upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Faith Based Service Lifetime Achievement Award by the Capital District Senior Issues Forum, celebrated at its 17th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, at Congregation Beth Emeth, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Capital District Senior Issues Forum (CDSIF) is a grass-roots, voluntary initiative among faith communities, organizations and individuals that provides support for seniors in the Capital District; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1998 as a pilot program at Albany's Westminster Presbyterian Church, CDSIF's founding forum members included caregivers, representatives from different faith communities who saw advocacy for older adults as a mission of their faith community, government officials concerned about senior issues, housing administrators, senior service providers, and seniors themselves; and

WHEREAS, Through education and dialogue, the Forum recognizes the contributions of older adults, identifies issues and unmet needs of the senior community, serves as the convener of stakeholders to address issues through forums, legislative programs, and educational programs, educates the community about issues affecting seniors, and generates the support of faith communities for health, healing, and wholeness of older adults; and

WHEREAS, Since 1998, the Forum has held over 16 ceremonies and has recognized over 676 seniors over the age of 85 for their Lifetime Achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rita Franconere has been recognized by the Capital District Senior Issues Forum for being an extraordinary senior, for making a difference in the lives of others, and for giving selflessly in faith based service; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Rita Franconere has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals within the State of New York who give of their time and energies in support of spiritual endeavors which aim to benefit the community at large; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rita Franconere upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Faith Based Service Lifetime Achievement Award by the Capital District Senior Issues Forum on October 7, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rita Franconere.