

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of John K. Gempler, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, John K. Gempler, a lifelong resident of Kenoza Lake, New York, died on March 17, 2016, at the age of 73; born on August 12, 1942, he was the son of John H. Gempler and Mary Keery Gempler; and

WHEREAS, The life of John K. Gempler was as varied and interesting as were his stories about his childhood and family, his love of people, his hearty laugh and his dedication to his professional careers; and

WHEREAS, John K. Gempler distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, After attending Cornell University, John K. Gempler began dairy farming on his farm located in Bethel, New York; it was there in 1969, the history making Woodstock concerts were performed in his front yard; and

WHEREAS, Leaving the farming business, John K. Gempler began his illustrious career with the Callicoon Cooperative Insurance Company; he was first elected to the Board of Directors of the company in 1972, and assumed the position of Assistant Secretary just one year later; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, in 1985, he was also elected treasurer and held both offices until his retirement in 2007, after 31 years of distinguished service managing the company; and

WHEREAS, John K. Gempler joined the Jeff Bank Board of Directors in 1981, and following his election, was named Secretary of the Jeff Bank Board of Directors in 1986, a position he devoted countless hours to for nearly 35 years; and

WHEREAS, With a commitment to excellence, John K. Gempler's spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Active in the insurance industry statewide, John K. Gempler served as the president of the New York Insurance Alliance in 1986, and was a member of the Finger Lakes Insurance Council; he was also a committeeman for the Cornell Cooperative Extension for more than 40 years, as well as treasurer of the Kenoza Lake Fire District; and

WHEREAS, In addition, this esteemed man was a member of the American British White Park Association, the New York Beef Producers Association and the Pennsylvania Livestock Association; and

WHEREAS, John K. Gempler is survived by his wife of 40 years, Lori; three children, Susan (David), David (Robin), and Joy (James); seven grandchildren, Jason, Michael, Jimmy, Erin, Todd, Justin and Kaitlyn; and nine great-grandchildren, Ryan, Marcella, Tanner, Alexis, Hailey, Hannah, Hunter, Isabella and T.J.; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, John K. Gempler leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of John K. Gempler, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of John K. Gempler.