

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Temple Beth El upon the occasion of closing its doors after 51 years of service to the Jewish community of Spring Valley, New York

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commending Temple Beth El upon the occasion of closing its doors after 51 years of service to the Jewish community of Spring Valley, New York; and

WHEREAS, After decades of service to the Spring Valley community, Temple Beth El will be closing its doors and its congregates will be joining with Rabbi Benjamin Sharff of Temple Beth Torah in Upper Nyack, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1947, Temple Beth El was founded when 75 people held its first congregational meeting at the Finkelstein Memorial Library in Spring Valley, New York; and

WHEREAS, The First Temple was officially constructed four years later, and nearly 1,000 families became part of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, As the years passed and the number of Jewish residents increased in the area, a second Temple was built in 1965; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed religious institution has truly devoted itself to serving the Spring Valley community, and although it will no longer be in service, the community will always remember the land that Temple Beth El stands on as a community center for worship and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations in commending Temple Beth El upon the occasion of closing its doors after 51 years of service to the Jewish community of Spring Valley, New York, fully confident that this commendation reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rabbi Benjamin Sharff, Temple Beth Torah, Upper Nyack, New York.