

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the accomplishments of Governor Charles Evans Hughes and celebrating the centennial of his presidential candidacy

WHEREAS, New York State has long been the birthplace and home to great historical figures, men and women who, through their great personal and professional achievements, have furthered the causes of humanity, government, education and social reform; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the accomplishments of Governor Charles Evans Hughes and celebrate the centennial of his presidential candidacy; and

WHEREAS, The City of Glens Falls, New York, will be declaring October 15, 2016, Charles Evans Hughes Day, to be celebrated with a myriad of events planned throughout the day; and

WHEREAS, Born on April 11, 1862, in Glens Falls, New York, in the midst of the American Civil War, Charles Evans Hughes was the only child of the former Mary C. Connelly and Reverend David C. Hughes; and

WHEREAS, An intelligent child, Charles Evans Hughes was able to read at three and a half years-old, and began to learn the Greek language at the age of nine; and

WHEREAS, Charles Evans Hughes attended Lafayette School in Newark, New Jersey, and graduated as Salutatorian at the young age of 13; one year later, he enrolled at Madison University (now Colgate University), where he became a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity; and

WHEREAS, Charles Evans Hughes then transferred to Brown University, continuing as a member of Delta Upsilon; he graduated third in his class at the age of 19, having been elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year; and

WHEREAS, In 1882, Charles Evans Hughes entered Columbia Law School where he graduated two years later with highest honors; while studying law, he taught at Delaware Academy; in 1884, he scored 99.5 percent on the New York Bar Exam, the highest grade up to that time; and

WHEREAS, From 1893-1905, Charles Evans Hughes served as President of the Boston Baptist Social Union, a Christian fellowship of men, promoting love among all people; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his alma mater, Charles Evans Hughes was a member of the Brown University Board of Trustees from 1903-1910; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his distinguished public career, Charles Evans Hughes maintained deep roots in the Glens Falls region and used those contacts as a source of strength to sustain his career as one of the 20th Century's greatest political figures; and

WHEREAS, From 1907-1910, Charles Evans Hughes held the esteemed position of the 36th Governor of the State of New York; in this capacity, he produced important reform legislation in three areas: improvement of the machinery and processes of government, extension of the state's regulatory authority over businesses engaged in public services, and expansion of governmental police and welfare functions; and

WHEREAS, As Governor, Charles Evans Hughes also championed and signed legislation to enforce the State Constitution provision prohibiting gambling; as a result, New York race tracks were shut down; and

WHEREAS, In 1908, Governor Charles Evans Hughes signed the Glens Falls city charter, and two years later, he signed the first Workman's Compensation Law in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Governor Charles Evans Hughes was instrumental in establishing the New York State Public Service Commission, and Saratoga State Park; and

WHEREAS, After his term as Governor, Charles Evans Hughes was nominated by President William H. Taft for Associate Justice to fill a

vacancy on the United States Supreme Court, a title he held from 1910-1916; and

WHEREAS, In 1914, Charles Evans Hughes joined the National Geographic Society, and was named a life trustee in 1930; and

WHEREAS, After resigning from the Supreme Court on June 10, 1916, Justice Charles Evans Hughes ran for President of the United States at the age of 54; he narrowly lost to Woodrow Wilson, 277 electoral votes to 254; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his law profession, Charles Evans Hughes held the title of President of the New York Bar Association in 1917; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, Charles Evans Hughes' daughter, Helen, became sick in 1918; after vacationing in Lake George during the summer, the family rented a home in Glens Falls, to avoid moving her back to New York City; devoted to both his family and his position, Charles spent the weekends with the family upstate and worked during the week in the City; and

WHEREAS, After Helen Hughes' untimely death in 1920, Charles Evans Hughes declined to run again for President, citing his sorrow at the loss of his beloved daughter; and

WHEREAS, From 1921-1925, the well-respected orator served as United States Secretary of State; in 1928, he held the title of Judge on the Court of International Justice, a position he held for two years until he was reappointed to the United States Supreme Court where he served as the 11th Chief Justice from 1930-1941; and

WHEREAS, On August 27, 1948, the American statesman Charles Evans Hughes passed away at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Charles Evans Hughes, former New York State Governor, Presidential candidate, Supreme Court Justice and devoted family man; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and admired by the Nation as a whole, Charles Evans Hughes' life was a portrait of service and patriotism, a legacy that long endured the passage of time, and will forever remain in the hearts of all New Yorkers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the accomplishments of Governor Charles Evans Hughes and celebrate the centennial of his presidential candidacy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jack Diamond, Mayor, Glens Falls, New York.

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