

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Francis House on January 28, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to recognize those established organizations within our communities that, year after year, diligently work to improve the quality of care for its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Francis House to be officially celebrated by the Central New York community on January 28, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Francis House was founded by the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities with the mission to provide a home and an extended family to persons with terminal illnesses in Central New York, so they can die with dignity surrounded by the unconditional love of God; and

WHEREAS, Francis House opened its doors to its first resident 25 years ago on January 28, 1991, and since then, this vital organization has welcomed over 2,500 people to spend their final days of life under the care of its dedicated staff and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Francis House is a nondenominational home which works in collaboration with certified and licensed agencies in providing compassionate care in a comforting home environment, offering physical, emotional and spiritual support and 24-hour medical supervision; and

WHEREAS, Referrals to Francis House are accepted from physicians, clergy, hospitals, home care agencies, family members, and prospective residents; and

WHEREAS, Francis House presently has two homes located at 108 and 114 Michaels Avenue on the north side of the City of Syracuse; the original house, an old Bostonian home built in 1918, now holds administrative offices, a living room and dining room; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Francis House completed a building expansion project at 108 Michaels Avenue to create eight resident bedrooms, a kitchen, great room and chapel; in 2004, 114 Michaels Avenue was built next door to 108 Michaels Avenue to include seven resident bedrooms, as well as a great room, kitchen and chapel; and

WHEREAS, At both Francis House homes, caregivers are present to provide care and support to residents 24-hours a day, with volunteers present from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. each day, all ensuring that each resident is treated with dignity, respect and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Today, Francis House has more than 500 volunteers, who give generously and unselfishly of their time to provide a loving home environment and presence to the residents who enter the doors of the organization; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, Francis House has served as an inspiration to others who wish to open their doors to people who are terminally ill, working closely with Mercy House in Binghamton, New York, and Caring House in Torrance, California to help them realize their dream; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those homes which enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Francis House; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Francis House.