

BY: Senator JACOBS

HONORING Kathy Brown upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award by the Western New York Educational Service Council

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant accomplishments in the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Kathy Brown upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award by the Western New York Educational Service Council celebrated at an Awards Banquet on Thursday, April 27, 2017; and

WHEREAS, The future success of our State and Nation is dependent upon individuals such as Kathy Brown, who dedicate their lives as educators, nurturing our most precious resource, our youth; and

WHEREAS, The Grand Island District Elementary Special Education Coordinator, and teacher at Huth Road Elementary, Kathy Brown has dedicated her life to education; she is always available to support her students and fellow teachers, whether through her work designing and delivering professional development, to helping her fellow teachers stay current in the most effective instructional techniques or supporting teachers in understanding their students' Individual Education Plan (IEPs); she truly wants every student to succeed; and

WHEREAS, In a crossover between her personal and professional life, Kathy Brown adopted a rescue dog which was formally trained as a service dog to work with her students; Hurley accompanies her to school several times a week to bring joy, love and companionship to both students and staff in the school; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to her school and community, Kathy Brown organizes the annual Valentines for Vets program, and is very involved in Honor Flight, a charity which makes arrangements for Veterans to travel to Washington D.C. to visit war memorials; she also helps coordinate the holiday food drive, bringing toys and food to needy families in her area; and

WHEREAS, An outspoken advocate for children and education, Kathy Brown has published articles in **The Buffalo News** and co-authored a book last year, using her talents in persuasion and writing to influence the masses; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Kathy Brown provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, A significant contributor to education in New York State, Kathy Brown clearly has an enduring impact on the youth at the Huth Road Elementary School, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for her impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her career thus far, Kathy Brown has brought an uncompromising standard of excellence to her work and a warm sense of caring and concern to every young person she educates; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Kathy Brown upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award by the Western New York Educational Service Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Kathy Brown.