

BY: Senator AKSHAR

MOURNING the death of Ferris George Akel II,
beloved father, grandfather, 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, Ferris George Akel II of Binghamton, New York died on Friday, May 19, 2017, at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, After the death of his father, 21 year old Ferris George Akel II became responsible for both his family and the family business, Binghamton Giant Markets, Inc.; in the evenings, he attended Harpur College until his graduation in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Ferris George Akel II's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his community, Ferris George Akel II served as the Chairman of the Dr. G. Clifford and Florence B. Decker Foundation for 28 years; since being Chairman, the foundation has given capital grants to 99 non-profit organizations in the community; and

WHEREAS, Ferris George Akel II was also a member of the Board of Directors for Binghamton University School of Management, United Health Services, Inc., UHS Professional Home Care, Inc., UHS Twin Tier Home Health, BSB Bank and Trust Company, The Binghamton Symphony, and the Roberson Museum and Science Center, as well as many other organizations; and

WHEREAS, For his dedicated service to his community, Ferris George Akel II was awarded the Binghamton University Harpur Forum School of Honor; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his paternal grandmother, Delia, his parents, George and Georgette Akel, Uncle Metrie "Mike", Aunt Renee, and cousin, Lillian, Ferris George Akel II is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Louise; five children, Stephanie, Nicole, Ferris III, Martine and Philip; six grandchildren, Giuliana, Cameron, Finbarr, Fritz, Isabelle and Madeline; and brothers/business partners, George and Ronald, and many other loving family members and friends; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Ferris George Akel II 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 mourning the death of Ferris George Akel II, beloved father, grandfather, 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 Ferris George Akel II.