

Senate Resolution No. 762

BY: Senator TEDISCO

COMMENDING Rabbi Robert S. Kasman upon the occasion of receiving an Honorary Doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America on March 2, 2017

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State are nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to individuals who distinguish themselves and the ministry through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Rabbi Robert S. Kasman upon the occasion of receiving an Honorary Doctorate from his alma mater, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America at its Convocation on Thursday, March 2, 2017, at the Sutton Place Synagogue, in New York, New York; and

WHEREAS, After attending grade school, junior and senior high school in Queens County, New York, Robert S. Kasman graduated from both Columbia University and The Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York City; and

WHEREAS, After obtaining his degree, Robert S. Kasman began his career as a spiritual leader serving in several counties throughout the State of New York including Westchester, Bronx, Nassau, Dutchess, and Schenectady; today, he holds the title of Rabbi at Temple Beth El in Rensselaer, New York; and

WHEREAS, For the last 15 years, Rabbi Robert S. Kasman has been a leader in Interfaith partnership in the Capital District; in this capacity, he has served as a voice for peace and cooperation with neighbors of all religions in various roles including an Interfaith Chaplain at Sunnyview Hospital in Schenectady, and a Rabbinic Advisor to the Historic Jewish Catholic Dialog in the Albany Roman Catholic Diocese; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Rabbi Robert S. Kasman has taught ethics and religion at various Catholic Schools, Maria College and Siena College in Albany; currently, he chairs the Interfaith Meditation Room at the Albany International Airport; and

WHEREAS, With a tremendous pride for his heritage, Rabbi Robert S. Kasman has shown initiative and commitment toward constantly pursuing higher goals for himself; he has worked tirelessly to better his community through an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion,

acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God has always given enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and has administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of all; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Rabbi Robert S. Kasman upon the occasion of receiving an Honorary Doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, noting his unremitting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his community, and extending to him heartfelt best wishes for a future of continued purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rabbi Robert S. Kasman.