

BY: Senator JACOBS

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of Elbers
Landscape Service

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those individuals and businesses which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Elbers Landscape Service; and

WHEREAS, In 1891, Henry H. Elbers entered the field of horticulture in Buffalo, New York; five years later, he was appointed superintendent of the old Parade Grounds, now Martin Luther King Park; and

WHEREAS, After 18 years of developing a renowned public green space, Henry Elbers was appointed director of the Buffalo Botanical Gardens; and

WHEREAS, With 28 years of experience under his belt, Henry Elbers opened Elbers Landscape Service in 1919; and

WHEREAS, In 1920, he moved the business to its current location on Main Street in North Buffalo, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Elbers family operated the business until 1980, when they sold it to James Hornung, Sr., and his wife, Elizabeth; James had been a member of the Elbers staff since 1972; and

WHEREAS, Today, Elbers Landscape Service is managed by James and Elizabeth Hornung and their son, James Hornung, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, James Hornung, Sr. served as head groundskeeper at Dunn Tire Park, Home of the Buffalo Bisons and one of the premier facilities in minor league baseball, for 16 seasons; in 2003, he became head groundskeeper for the City of Buffalo Parks Department and, in 2008, became Erie County Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, a position he held until 2011; and

WHEREAS, James Hornung, Sr. and James Hornung, Jr. have been called upon to contribute their time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and have always given of themselves unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, James Hornung, Sr. has served as Past President of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County and its Foundation, Past President of WNY State Nursery & Landscape Association, and Chair of the Buffalo Green Fund; and

WHEREAS, Currently, James Hornung, Jr. is serving as Board President of Dominc Hasek Youth Hockey Organization, Inc. "Hasek Heroes"; as a member of the City of Buffalo Zoning Board of Appeals and National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) Trailblazer, and Chair of the Editorial Committee of Snow Business magazine; and

WHEREAS, Today, both James Hornung, Jr. and James Hornung, Sr. are members and past Presidents of both the New York State Turfgrass Association, and the National Association of Landscape Professionals; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, they are both members of the Accredited Snow Contractors Association (ASCA), Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), Snow & Ice Management Association (Jr.-past President), and the New York State Nursery & Landscape Association (Sr.-past Board Member); and

WHEREAS, As Elbers Landscape Service has grown and expanded into other markets throughout New York State, the Hornung family has remained committed to the Western New York community with the help of their dedicated staff; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges this exceptional business and its contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the sparkling successes it has experienced thus far; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Elbers Landscape Service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James Hornung, Sr., Elbers Landscaping Service.