

BY: Senator ANTONACCI

COMMEMORATING the 40th Anniversary of Riley's in
Syracuse, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize illustrious culinary establishments which have positively impacted and substantially contributed to the vitality of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of Riley's in Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, Riley's, a longtime neighborhood bar and restaurant, opened its door for the first time under the able leadership of Terry Riley on March 15, 1979, after he purchased the tavern at 312 Park Street from members of the Schenkenberger family; and

WHEREAS, Terry Riley, who grew up in Eastwood, New York, and holds a degree in education, is the 15th owner of this renowned establishment, which records indicate, has operated as a tavern since 1898; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 40 years, little has changed at Riley's, including its decor of tin ceilings, vintage fixtures and dark woodwork; and

WHEREAS, Well acquainted with the history of this location, Terry Riley keeps a sign in the bar which lists the proprietors who came before him; he also displays photos and other memorabilia from the 130-year history of 312 Park Street on its walls; and

WHEREAS, Open six days a week, Riley's dining menu is seasonal, changes daily and features both tavern favorites and specialty entrees; one of its signature elements is the menu, beautifully handwritten by Bob Baker, who served as the greeter and front-of-the-house manager until the 1990s; and

WHEREAS, The remarkable success of Riley's is due in large part to Owner, Terry Riley; Head Chef, Colin Dunford; Pastry Chef, Brian Connor; Dining Room Manager, Val Brefka; Back-of-the-House Manager, Alan "Ace" Chouinard; and its dedicated staff, whose warmth and hospitality are easily recognized by their loyal patrons; this dynamic team is well-versed in customer service and truly makes everyone who walks through their door feel like family; and

WHEREAS, For four decades, Riley's has stood as a beloved establishment which has provided a friendly, open environment for patrons to collectively gather and share their thoughts, ideas and life experiences; 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 40th Anniversary of Riley's in Syracuse, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Terry Riley, Owner, Riley's, Syracuse, New York.