

BY: Senator O'MARA

HONORING Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 36 years of distinguished service to Schuyler County Law Enforcement

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished officers who would devote themselves to public service, demonstrating great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement from Schuyler County Law Enforcement; and

WHEREAS, William E. Yessman, Jr. began his illustrious career in law enforcement in 1985, working in both the Schuyler County Jail and the Emergency Dispatch Center; he received his education and specialized training from the police course at the Southern Tier Law Enforcement Academy and was soon promoted to the Sheriff's Road Patrol; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, William E. Yessman, Jr. advanced to the rank of Sergeant before his promotion to the position of Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Ten years later, William E. Yessman, Jr. was appointed Undersheriff, taking on additional responsibilities as Schuyler County STOP DWI Coordinator; in 2006, he was elected Sheriff of Schuyler County, the esteemed position from which he officially retired on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr., Schuyler County was one of the first counties in New York State, and beyond, to employ body cameras with all deputies; it also holds one of the lowest crime rates in New York and is widely recognized as a "safe" community; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, with a reputation for ensuring public safety, Schuyler County hosts the largest outdoor sporting event in New York State (NASCAR) as well as several other mass gatherings, all of which are under the jurisdiction of Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to his community, Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr. introduced Project Lifesaver, one of the first counties to do so, and led a Police Reform initiative with the County Administrator; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated not only to law enforcement but to supporting the men and women of the department, Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr. is well respected statewide by his peers and within his local community; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr., with his proficient leadership and love for Schuyler County, truly epitomized the roll of a community police officer; he tirelessly and selflessly served the residents of his beloved community with compassion, integrity, and fairness, attributes which will forever serve as an example for his fellow officers; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated public servants who unselfishly devote their lives to the preservation of order and the protection of others are worthy and due full praise for their commitment and noble endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement, and to wish him well in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sheriff William E. Yessman, Jr.