

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Nancy and Steven Lerner upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors, and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, family, and community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Nancy and Steven Lerner upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center to be celebrated on Sunday, May 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Each year, this prestigious awards ceremony recognizes individuals for their contributions to the Center and the Jewish community-at-large by acting as moral pillars and dispensers of wisdom and advice, providing continued service and leadership, and acting generously in the spirit of Tzedakah; and

WHEREAS, Widely known for their extraordinary dedication to Israel and the local community, Nancy and Steven Lerner's philanthropic and leadership endeavors continue to inspire all of those who are lucky enough to know them; and

WHEREAS, Nancy and Steven Lerner met and started dating in high school at the Milne School, and were both raised with strong family values modelled by their parents, who instilled in them the importance of family and giving back to their community; and

WHEREAS, Nancy and Steven Lerner have been active members of the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center (JCC) since they were children, attending day camp and participating in the Sunday Funday program for years; and

WHEREAS, As an older child, Steven Lerner was a member of the swim team, and his band, The Regents, played at JCC dances, with him as the lead singer; during high school, he was President of the ABG fraternity and received the Herbert Applebaum Award; and

WHEREAS, Later, Steven Lerner ran the scoreboard when his son played on the JCC basketball team, served on the Board of Directors and Golf and Tennis Event committee, helped with the Dunkin Runs and health fairs, and coached the Maccabi golf team; and

WHEREAS, Steven Lerner began working at a young age behind the counter at his family's business, Lerner's Delicatessen, where he helped

expand the business to several locations; after 20 years in the restaurant business, he moved on to real estate and has been a respected member of the Vanguard-Fine commercial team for the past 15 years; and

WHEREAS, In 2012, Steven Lerner was appointed to the Albany Convention Center Authority Board, elected Treasurer in 2014, and currently, chairs the authority's Audit and Finance Committee; he is also a member of the To Life! Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Lerner volunteered with her children's school and athletic activities at Mercy Cares for Kids, HACD, Loudonville Elementary, and Shaker High School; for 12 years, she mentored a teenage mother and her family; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman has served on the Board of Directors of JCC and To Life!'s Gala Committee, and has co-chaired the JCC's Pillars Committee for eight years; recently, she became involved with and went to Israel (virtually) with the JNF's Women's Leadership Committee; and

WHEREAS, For more than four decades, Nancy Lerner has worked at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Albany County, starting as Director of the organization's day camp initiative and then was hired fulltime to deliver informal educational programs in the South End of Albany; today, she is responsible for identifying and securing grant funds and overseeing health and environmental programs and is part of the management team; and

WHEREAS, With them throughout have been their two children, Jennifer (Jason) and Matthew, and their three grandchildren, Kelsey, Cammie, and Jax, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of their life and rejoice in their achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Nancy and Steven Lerner have displayed throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Nancy and Steven Lerner upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Nancy and Steven Lerner.