

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Rabbi Dan Ornstein upon the occasion of his designation as recipient 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 Rabbi Dan Ornstein upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center to be celebrated virtually on Sunday, April 18, 2021; 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 his extraordinary dedication to Israel and the local community, Rabbi Dan Ornstein's philanthropic and leadership endeavors continue to inspire all of those who are lucky enough to know him; and

WHEREAS, Since 1994, Dan Ornstein has served as Rabbi at Congregation Ohav Shalom in Albany, New York, where he lives with his family and teaches Judaic Studies at the Hebrew Academy of the Capital District; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Capital District Board of Rabbis, Rabbi Dan Ornstein has served on the Board of the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center and is currently a member of the capital region Board of the Jewish National Fund; he is also a task force member of ALERT: The Albany Law Enforcement Resolution Team; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Rabbi Dan Ornstein is the author of **Cain v Abel: A Jewish Courtroom Drama** (Jewish Publication Society 2020); he has contributed essays to several books and journals and is a regular blogger at the **Times of Israel**; he also writes and airs essays at WAMC: Northeast Public Radio; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Marian Alexander, and their three children, Joseph, Shulamit and Vered, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his many achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Rabbi Dan Ornstein has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It has always been the objective of this Legislative Body to honor and support those individuals who have displayed their commitment to the betterment of their communities, and it is the intent of this Legislative Body to inscribe upon its records, this tribute to Rabbi Dan Ornstein, that future generations may know and appreciate his admirable character, his many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which he is held by his peers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rabbi Dan Ornstein upon the occasion of his designation as recipient 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 Rabbi Dan Ornstein.