

Assembly Resolution No. 594

BY: M. of A. Cusick

COMMENDING James T. Callahan upon the occasion of his designation as Grand Marshal of the 2022 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to individuals of true purpose and worthy accomplishment who work diligently to preserve and celebrate their rich cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend James T. Callahan upon the occasion of his designation as Grand Marshal of the 2022 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade; and

WHEREAS, In acknowledgment of this most prestigious appointment, James T. Callahan will have the honor of leading the 261st consecutive New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade up Fifth Avenue on Thursday, March 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, James T. Callahan serves as the General President of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE); he was elected to a full term at the 38th General Convention on April 28, 2013, after fulfilling the term of retired General President Vincent J. Giblin; and

WHEREAS, Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the IUOE represents 400,000 men and women in the U.S. and Canada who run the heavy construction equipment to help build both nations, and who also operate and maintain commercial complexes and buildings, such as schools, hospitals, offices, powerhouses, sports arenas and the like, in both countries; and

WHEREAS, IUOE also represents nurses and other health industry workers, public employees in a wide variety of occupations, and a number of job classifications in the petrochemical industry; and

WHEREAS, A 33-year member and third generation operating engineer, James T. Callahan moved up the union's ranks from member to Shop Steward, Foreman, Trustee, and Business Representative to ultimately lead Local 15 in New York City as its 4th President and Business Manager in 2003; and

WHEREAS, James T. Callahan began his illustrious career as an operating engineer in 1980; proficient in all mechanical aspects of maintenance and repair, he was initiated as a shop mechanic in Local 15C; and

WHEREAS, By 1993, he had worked his way up to maintenance foreman and was an integral part of the team that worked on the World Trade Center site in the aftermath of the terrorist bombing of the parking garage that killed and injured dozens of people; and

WHEREAS, Eight years later, as a local union Business Agent, James T. Callahan found himself back at the World Trade Center; this time, he was one of the many operating engineers who responded immediately to the September 11th tragedy and he stayed on to work through the entire recovery effort at Ground Zero; and

WHEREAS, James T. Callahan was elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Board in March of 2012, and also serves on the AFL-CIO Executive Committee; in addition, he has been an Executive Board member of the New York City Building and Construction Trades Council, the New York City Central Labor Council, and the New York State AFL-CIO; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Fran, and their three sons, James, Ian and Patrick, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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 the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend James T. Callahan upon the occasion of his designation as Grand Marshal of the 2022 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James T. Callahan.