

BY: Senator BRESLIN

EXTENDING admiration and grateful appreciation to James E. Long for his many years of distinguished service to the New York State Legislative Bill Drafting Commission upon the occasion of his retirement as Commissioner

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is privileged this day to recognize and pay tribute to an individual of distinguished purpose and true commitment who dedicated his professional career to public service and the pursuit of excellence while sustaining the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to extend admiration and grateful appreciation to James E. Long for his many years of distinguished service as Commissioner of the New York State Legislative Bill Drafting Commission, to be celebrated with a retirement party in his honor on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at the Italian American Community Center, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, James "Jim" Long began his illustrious career with the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission as a Commissioner on January 11, 2010, serving until January 11, 2011; he was reappointed Commissioner of the New York State Bill Drafting Commission by Leader of the Senate, Andrea Stewart-Cousins, on January 2, 2019, where he remained until his official retirement on January 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he is the former Special Counsel to the New York State Senate Democratic Conference, and formerly represented the Construction and General Laborers Local 190 (LIUNA); and

WHEREAS, In addition to his tireless work with the New York State Bill Drafting Commission, James E. Long has served as the Albany County Public Defender and as Law Clerk for late New York State Supreme Court Justices The Honorable Paul Cheeseman and Daniel Prior, as well as Albany County Surrogate Raymond Marinelli; he has also served as a private practice attorney for more than 44 years, specializing in Criminal Defense, Trial Practice, Election Law, and Labor Law; and

WHEREAS, Having tried over 100 cases to verdict in state and federal court, James E. Long has developed an impeccable reputation for his judicial temperament, selfless dedication, and superior litigation skills; and

WHEREAS, Widely respected and greatly admired for his unrelenting dedication to the field of law, James E. Long has been cited on a number of occasions for his prolific contributions, including his selection to Super Lawyers (2011 - 2013), a peer designation awarded only to a select number of accomplished attorneys in each state; and

WHEREAS, James E. Long received his Bachelor's degree from the State

University of New York at Albany in 1974; he went on to earn his law degree from the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law in 1978, and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his many endeavors, his daughter Darcy, son-in-law Mike, and granddaughter Madeline, have consistently remained the most fundamental, supportive, and cherished part of his life; and

WHEREAS, James E. Long has served the Commission with dependability, honor and integrity, effectively fulfilling the duties of his position and contributing significantly to the legal process of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, James E. Long has always been insightful, fair and accessible; he has been steadfast and considerate in his dealings with others; his infinite knowledge of every aspect of the Commission is one to be admired, earning him the respect and affection of his staff and coworkers; and

WHEREAS, Throughout a life and career of purposeful endeavor, James E. Long has remained true to his commitment, serving family, faith and community, as well as the law; his contributions and accomplishments have brought great benefit and positive influence to bear upon the course of jurisprudence and the quality of life for others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to join the members of the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission in applauding James E. Long, whose years of outstanding contributions to the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission have been invaluable, and extending to him best wishes for a future as rich and rewarding as his notable career; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to extend admiration and grateful appreciation to James E. Long upon the occasion of his well-deserved retirement as Commissioner of the New York State Bill Drafting Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James E. Long.