Senate Resolution No. 767

BY: Senator O'MARA

COMMEMORATING the 75th Anniversary of Able2

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; and

WHEREAS, From time to time, society calls upon these individuals and organizations to be recognized for the significance of their contributions and efforts to assist others in developing the skills necessary to be successful, productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, The families of individuals with cerebral palsy and other developmental disabilities have long fought for equality, independence, and the dignity of their loved ones, and it is with immense pride and admiration that this Legislative Body recognize the 75th Anniversary of Able2, an agency that has been a cornerstone of advocacy, support, and inclusion for those living with disabilities in Chemung County; and

WHEREAS, Able2 was founded in 1950 by the hardworking and visionary families of individuals with cerebral palsy who, faced with the lack of alternatives, refused to accept institutionalization for their loved ones; these families, true pioneers, boldly charted a new course, creating an agency dedicated to breaking the barriers of institutional care and instead, advocating for community-based services tailored to the needs and aspirations of each individual; and

WHEREAS, For 75 years, Able2 has evolved from its humble beginnings into a thriving professional agency that serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities of all kinds, enhancing their potential and providing meaningful, person-centered support that allows them to live independent, fulfilling, and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, Able2's mission is rooted in the belief that all individuals with disabilities are valuable members of society and that every person has the right to pursue their dreams, ambitions, and full potential; furthermore, its comprehensive services provide people with the tools they need to succeed, promoting inclusivity, productivity, and independence throughout the Chemung County community; and

WHEREAS, Able2 is steadfast in its commitment to creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities, empowering them to be contributors to their community and raising awareness and acceptance of people with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, This vital agency's core values reflect the power of partnerships between those it serves, its staff, its volunteers, and the broader community, built on ethical, responsive, and high-quality supports; and

WHEREAS, The impact of Able2's services is immeasurable, as it

continues to foster an environment in which individuals with disabilities are recognized for their strengths and supported in ways that enrich not only their lives but the lives of those around them; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations 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 commemorate and honor the 75th Anniversary of Able2, recognizing its founding role as a pioneer in the fight for equality and inclusion for individuals with disabilities, and its ongoing commitment to enhancing the lives of those it serves in Chemung County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Able2.