

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating John and Marlene Elacqua of Latham, New York, upon the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

WHEREAS, John Elacqua and the former Marlene Ackenbrack were married on January 17, 1959, in Albany, New York; they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The celebration for the family and friends of John and Marlene Elacqua began at six o'clock with a renewal of their marriage vows at Historic St. George's Episcopal Church in the Stockade area of Schenectady; and

WHEREAS, The Rt. Rev. David S. Ball, retired Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany, celebrated the service assisted by Thomas O. Maggs, a longtime friend of John and Marlene Elacqua, and David Kennison, Sr., Warden of St. George's Church; and

WHEREAS, In keeping with the holiday, a festive Gala was held at the Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia following the service; dinner and dancing together with a slide presentation was presented by their daughters, who acted as hostesses for the evening; and

WHEREAS, A special guest at the Gala was Sam Perkins, a retired NBA basketball standout, who resided with the Elacquas while he attended Shaker High School; and

WHEREAS, John and Marlene Elacqua are the proud parents of Jamie-Lynne Elacqua, Esq. (Steven Hornbeck), Susan Elizabeth Elacqua-Clermont (Andrew), and Carolyn Leigh Elacqua, and have five grandchildren, Trevor Michael Degre, Tierney Elizabeth Hornbeck, and Matthew, Donald and Elizabeth Clermont; and

WHEREAS, Marlene Elacqua retired after 25 years of service at the Episcopal Diocese of Albany, where she served as the Administrative Assistant to Bishop Ball and the late Bishop Wilbur E. Hogg; following her retirement, she worked part-time at FOX 23 television in Albany; and

WHEREAS, John Elacqua retired from the New York State Empire State Development Corporation in 2002, where he served as the Project Manager for construction projects from Albany to Plattsburgh, including the Times Union Center and the New York State Nanotech buildings at SUNY Albany; and

WHEREAS, John and Marlene Elacqua are and always have been a tower of strength, support, understanding and limitless love for their family; and

WHEREAS, Their love, devotion, caring, sensitivity and responsiveness to their family, friends and all who know them are their hallmark and tradition; and

WHEREAS, John and Marlene Elacqua have lived and continue to live their lives with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for human values and ideals, and in so doing, they have inspired others to do the same; and

WHEREAS, This meaningful occasion is the result of the love, hard work and spirit that this couple has invested in their marriage; and

WHEREAS, These same values they have passed to their loved ones, producing a family that is close-knit and supportive of its individual members, public-minded in its relations to the community and committed to the ideals of citizenship upon which this Nation was founded; and

WHEREAS, John and Marlene Elacqua have touched the lives of their family and many friends through the shining example of their marriage, which is a testament to the devotion and admiration which they possess for one another; and

WHEREAS, The longevity of this enduring marriage truly marks a milestone in life's journey, an event of personal triumph and joy; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when an occa-

sion of such importance is brought to our attention, the same should be memorialized by us for the edification and emulation of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate John and Marlene Elacqua upon the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John and Marlene Elacqua.