

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Mary Frances Silitch upon her induction into the Women in Aviation, International's Pioneer Hall of Fame on March 16, 2013

WHEREAS, A great community is only as great as those persons who provide exemplary service, whether through participation in voluntary programs, through unique personal achievement in their profession or other endeavors, or simply through a lifetime of good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Mary Frances Silitch upon her induction into the Women in Aviation, International's (WAI) Pioneer Hall of Fame, to be celebrated at its 24th Annual Conference closing banquet on Saturday, March 16, 2013, at Gaylord Opryland and Resort in Nashville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, 77-year old Mary Frances Silitch has spent a lifetime as an aviation reporter and editor; she moved to Granville, New York, eight years ago after a long journalism career; and

WHEREAS, Mary Frances Silitch began her magazine career at MADEMOISELLE magazine in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Mary Frances Silitch was the first female editor of a national mainstream aviation magazine when she was named editor-in-chief of PRIVATE PILOT magazine in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Her publishing career took her to FLYING, AIR PROGRESS, PROFESSIONAL PILOT, and AOPA PILOT; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her illustrious career, Mary Frances Silitch has flown 250 types of aircraft and logged 5,000 hours; and

WHEREAS, In the 1980s, Mary Frances Silitch made history of her own, setting a world speed record of 180.44 mph for light-turbine amphibian planes; and

WHEREAS, Even in retirement, Mary Frances Silitch still contributes from time to time to an aviation magazine; and

WHEREAS, Mary Frances Silitch is also a member of the Arkansas Aviation Hall of Fame and has received a number of other regional and national honors; and

WHEREAS, Since moving to Granville, Mary Frances Silitch has been involved in the Slate Valley Garden Club, and is a member of the board of trustees of Granville's Pember Library and Museum, as well as Zonta in Glens Falls; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Mary Frances Silitch upon her induction into the Women in Aviation, International's Pioneer Hall of Fame on March 16, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mary Frances Silitch.