

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Professional of the Year Award by the Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany on April 21, 2018

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Professional of the Year Award by the Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany, to be celebrated at its Annual Visionary Gala, on Saturday, April 21, 2018, at the Franklin Plaza Ballroom, Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, Since 1908, the Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA) has provided comprehensive services and programs to residents of the greater Capital Region who are blind or visually impaired; in 2016, they helped over 900 individuals of all ages across 14 counties adapt to vision loss, maximize remaining vision, achieve their goals, and expand their independence; and

WHEREAS, In addition, NABA offered screenings to over 4,000 children between 18 months and five years of age for possible vision problems; and

WHEREAS, John Kennedy, Jr. received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Notre Dame before earning his Medical degree from the Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara; he completed his internship at Maryland General Hospital, and his Ophthalmology Residency at Friedenwald Institute at Maryland General Hospital; and

WHEREAS, After serving as an attending in ophthalmology at Ellis Hospital and St. Clare's Hospital, Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. served as a consultant in ophthalmology at Bellevue Hospital; he went on to become a consultant in ophthalmology at Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital, the esteemed position he continues to hold today; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to his profession, Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. has been an active member of the Schenectady County Medical Society, the Medical Society of New York, and the American Medical Association since 1980; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he has served as Chair of the New York delegation since 2016, and as a Fellow at the American Academy of

Ophthalmology since 1982; and

WHEREAS, With a steadfast and unwavering commitment to the community, Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. was a member of NABA from 1989 until 1995, as well as its President from 1992 to 1994; he also served as Chair of the Notre Dame Club of Northeastern New York; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It has always been the objective of this Legislative Body to honor and support those individuals who have displayed their commitment to the betterment of their communities, and it is the intent of this Legislative Body to inscribe upon its records, this tribute to Dr. John Kennedy, Jr., that future generations may know and appreciate his admirable character, his many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which he is held by his peers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. John Kennedy, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Professional of the Year Award by the Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany on April 21, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. John Kennedy, Jr.