

BY: Senator AMEDORE

CONGRATULATING Richard Rapp upon the occasion of his retirement after 41 years of distinguished service as Supervisor of the Town of Westerlo, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens of this great Empire State who have devoted themselves to faithfully serving the best interests of their community and the needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Richard Rapp upon the occasion of his retirement after 41 years of distinguished service as Supervisor of the Town of Westerlo, New York; he officially retired from this esteemed position on Tuesday, March 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Richard Rapp, affectionately known as Dick, began his illustrious career in public service with the Town of Westerlo as an Assessor, a position he held for 10 years, before being elected Supervisor in 1977; and

WHEREAS, In this capacity, Richard Rapp oversaw the creation of a number of town resources and projects, including the purchase of the Westerlo school building for use as its Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, Richard Rapp was instrumental in the establishment of a library in the donated building which once served as a general store; furthermore, a museum was placed in the back of the library before renovations were made to a building on Route 1, where the museum officially opened in 2015; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of Westerlo, Richard Rapp has a true passion for the history of his hometown; he authorized the purchase of the Westerlo bandwagon, on which the town band had once traveled, as well as a tent of artifacts, both of which were displayed at the Town's 2015 Bicentennial Celebration; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his role as Supervisor, Richard Rapp began working for the Albany County Department of Public Works in 1982; he went on to be appointed Commissioner six years later, retiring in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Richard Rapp previously worked for the Hudson River Construction Company in Albany, New York, for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, For a half-century, Richard Rapp rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service to the Town of Westerlo, earning the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife of nearly 60 years who has shown him love and support and rejoices in his many achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, leadership, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by Richard Rapp over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Richard Rapp upon the occasion of his retirement after 41 years of distinguished service as Supervisor of the Town of Westerlo, New York; and be it further

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