

Senate Resolution No. 2700

BY: Senator BORRELLO

MOURNING the death of John W. Hasper, family man, well-respected New York State Assemblyman, and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly those distinguished citizens who demonstrated great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, With feelings of deepest regret, this Legislative Body records the passing of John W. Hasper, who died on Saturday, January 4, 2020, at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, John W. Hasper was born on November 6, 1935, to Lillian (Carter) and Burdette John Hasper in Albany, New York; after his family moved to Belfast, New York, he attended the local high school; after graduating, he earned his bachelor's degree in political science from Colgate University, where he was actively involved in his campus community; and

WHEREAS, John W. Hasper furthered his education by obtaining his law degree from Albany University in 1960; during this time, he met and married his wife, the former Diane Wilson, on July 18, 1959; later, they moved back to his hometown where they raised four daughters; and

WHEREAS, An industrious and hard-working man, John W. Hasper founded and served as President of Belfast Realty Development Corporation, President of Hasper & Dye, Inc. Insurance Company, Vice President of Walker, Hasper & Dye, and Treasurer of Smith, Hasper & Dye; and

WHEREAS, John W. Hasper also held the title of Treasurer of Genesee Valley Home Medical Supply, Inc., was a senior member of the American Association of Real Estate Appraisers, and served on both the Steuben Allegany Board of Realtors, and the National Board of Ethics ACAA; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his career, John W. Hasper was a devoted and treasured part of his community, serving in various capacities including volunteer firefighter, Fire District Commissioner, school board member, town councilman and supervisor, and the Allegany County Legislature, where he served as majority leader for nine years, and Chairman of the Board from 1980-1986; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, he served for two years on the Board of Supervisors, Vice Chairman of the Regional Planning Board from 1970 to 1982, and President of the Belfast Betterment Association, and was a

member of the Fleet Bank Regional Board and the County Planning Board;
and

WHEREAS, In 1986, John W. Hasper was elected to the New York State Assembly, representing the 136th District, and served until 1992; in this capacity, he was the ranking member on the Local Government Committee, and served on the Environmental Conservation and Transportation Committees; and

WHEREAS, John W. Hasper also served in Governor George Pataki's administration in various roles such as Deputy Secretary of State for Local Governments and Community Service, Chairman of the Local Government Innovation Task Force for Working 2000, Inc., and headed six divisions; and

WHEREAS, After the death of his first wife, John W. Hasper married Lorraine Vienna, and they retired in Punta Gorda, Florida; and

WHEREAS, John W. Hasper was truly an amazing man, who had many interests and passions such as hunting, fishing, snow skiing, and playing golf; above all, he loved to spend time with his family especially at their Colgate University Alumni Camp on Upper Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks, and their home in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his first wife, Diane, one daughter, Kimberly Ann, and stepdaughter, Cindy, John W. Hasper is survived by his wife, Lorraine; three daughters, Gretchen (Michael); Jacquelyn (Stephen), and Jennifer (Steven); 10 grandchildren, Harrison, Carter, Gracen, Courtney (Ben), Alexander, Hans, Jacques, Samantha, Lincoln and Owen; four stepdaughters, Cindy (Tony), Christine (Dave), Nancy, and Nona (James); one stepson, Michael (Janine); eight step-grandchildren, Natalie, Jacquelyn, Ashley, Stacy, Andrea, Chad, Benjamin, and Alexander; as well as many relatives, friends, and colleagues who will long cherish his memory; and

WHEREAS, A man of great compassion and determination, John W. Hasper's legacy extends far beyond his accomplishments as a successful public servant; his sincere concern for others; his integrity, unconditional friendship and selfless motivation to give of himself, will long stand as a beacon for those who would aspire to service in their community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of John W. Hasper, family man, well-respected New York State Assemblyman, and devoted member of his community, recognizing the significance of his exemplary record of public service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of John W. Hasper.