

BY: Senator RITCHIE

COMMENDING Surrogate Judge John Richey upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of distinguished service to St. Lawrence County

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge outstanding individuals within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Judge John Richey upon the occasion of his retirement after many years of distinguished service to St. Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, John Richey grew up in Massena, New York, and graduated from LeMoyne College and Syracuse University College of Law; and

WHEREAS, After time spent in private practice, Judge John Richey joined the Unified Court System in 1989 as a court attorney to his Surrogate's Court predecessor Judge Kathleen M. Rogers, and served as her principal court attorney until his election; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Judge John Richey spent five years as a court attorney to Judge Robert G. Main Jr. of Franklin County, as well as a decade serving as Town Justice and acting Village Justice of Massena; and

WHEREAS, Beyond his career, Judge John Richey made time to serve as President of the St. Lawrence County Bar Association, as well as the St. Lawrence County Magistrates Association and was an instructor at the David Sullivan Police Academy; and

WHEREAS, He also served as a member of the SUNY Canton Legal Studies Advisory Board, and chaired a statewide committee on court attorney pay disparity for the Office of Court Administration; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his Surrogate's Court duties, Judge John Richey has handled matters in County Court and Family Court in St. Lawrence and Franklin counties, and was appointed an acting justice of the Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, Judge John Richey ran unopposed for the position of St. Lawrence County Surrogate Court judge and has served in that capacity since 2015; he will officially retire from this esteemed position on February 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, During his illustrious career, including 33 years in the court system, Judge John Richey has made a lasting impact on countless people throughout the region, truly earning the admiration, affection and esteem of his colleagues and the community-at-large; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those

dedicated individuals who have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence 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 commend Surrogate Court Judge John Richey upon the occasion of his retirement, and to wish him well in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Surrogate Court Judge John Richey.