

BY: Senator O'MARA

COMMEMORATING the 50th Anniversary of the Steuben
County Industrial Development Agency

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency; and

WHEREAS, For five decades, this vital agency has steadfastly provided economic development services to the communities and residents of Steuben County, New York; and

WHEREAS, Founded through an act of the New York State Legislature in June of 1972, the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) advances the job opportunities, general prosperity, and economic welfare of the people of the county; and

WHEREAS, In January of 1973, the agency took its first action of record approving bond financing for Gold Seal Vineyards in the amount of one million dollars; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, in its first ten years of existence, the agency leveraged \$123,825,000 of new investments in Steuben County; and

WHEREAS, At its annual meeting in November of 1982, the Steuben County IDA appointed Mike Manikowski as its first paid Director and Jim Griffin as the Assistant Director; in December of the following year, the agency moved its offices from Corning to space in the Shannon building in the Village of Bath; and

WHEREAS, In October of 2019, the Steuben County IDA approved incentives for Abundant Star, the agency's first solar project; two years later, it announced the attraction of LP Building Solutions to the IDA Industrial Park in Bath, leveraging a \$24 million investment; and

WHEREAS, Through partnerships between the business community, the public sector and community organizations, the remarkable accomplishments of the IDA can be seen throughout the county; companies like Corning Incorporated, Instant Brands, Upstate Farms Cheese, HP Hood, Alstom, Siemens Energy, and countless others have all benefited from the IDA as the organization has grown through the years; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Steuben County IDA creates and stimulates an economic climate which competitively positions the county to attract a

talented workforce, public and private investment in infrastructure and business development, and other compatible and diverse sustainable economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, Steuben County IDA has leveraged more than \$2 billion in new investments, creating thousands of new jobs; and

WHEREAS, In the last 25 years, the IDA has attracted over 3,000 jobs; the organization saw its focus evolve as the economic development industry became more holistic in its approach, shifting from traditional industrial projects and broadening its efforts; in addition, the IDA has focused on other sectors, such as tourism, housing, and renewable energy to better expand the county's economic base; and

WHEREAS, Projects such as the redevelopment of the former Corning Hospital site demonstrate how economic development organizations can utilize a variety of tools to drive development; this investment redefined an entire block in the City of Corning by removing a closed hospital and attracting investments into education, housing, and finance to help meet the broader needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, This expanded focus is the driving force behind the IDA's current successes; in 2022, the county will realize nearly \$1 billion in new investment in a single year; projects range from large scale renewable energy to infrastructure development supporting investments by companies like Amazon and LP Building Solutions' new finishing facility, creating 61 new jobs; and

WHEREAS, During its first 50 years, the IDA has successfully attracted new investments and jobs to the county, and during the next 50 years, the organization will hold true to its mission of advancing the job opportunities, general prosperity, and economic welfare of the people of the county by continuing to grow the business assets of Steuben County, New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency.