

BY: Senator RITCHIE

HONORING Dr. Andrew Fox Williams upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year Award by the New York State Association of Rural Health

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those individuals within the medical field who distinguish themselves through professional excellence and who have made significant contributions to the quality of life of citizens in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. Andrew Fox Williams upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year Award by the New York State Association of Rural Health; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, the New York State Association of Rural Health is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of rural New Yorkers and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andrew Fox Williams received this auspicious award for his outstanding contributions to the North Country community during the COVID-19 pandemic; this accolade is in honor of Dr. Gary Ogden, who passed away in January of 2007; and

WHEREAS, According to the New York State Association of Rural Health, those receiving the award exhibit the same qualities as Dr. Ogden, including a passion for life, selfless dedication to their community, organization and especially, their patients, along with a strong sense of truth and the conviction, belief and action to make dreams a reality; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andrew Fox Williams' dedication in time and knowledge to the pandemic response demonstrates his sincere commitment to the core values of public health and quality care that Dr. Ogden exemplified; and

WHEREAS, When the COVID-19 pandemic hit the North Country, Dr. Andrew Fox Williams helped to lead the St. Lawrence County public health response; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andrew Fox Williams worked tirelessly to ensure there was a balanced approach to the pandemic, preventing further spread of the illness and ensuring that public health was protected, and people were able to get back to work and school whenever safely possible; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andrew Fox Williams has devoted his career to the health of others; he is a primary care physician, the Medical Director of the Community Health Center of the North Country, and the Associate Medical Director for Canton-Potsdam Hospital within the St. Lawrence

Health System; in addition, he serves as the President of the St. Lawrence County Board of Health; and

WHEREAS, As a leader in his profession, Dr. Andrew Fox Williams has proven himself to be a great asset to medicine and to the health and welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, in recognition of the significance of this meritorious achievement, to honor Dr. Andrew Fox Williams upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Dr. Gary Ogden Rural Health Practitioner of the Year Award by the New York State Association of Rural Health; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Andrew Fox Williams.