

BY: Senator COONEY

MOURNING the death of I.C. Shah, local telecom businessman, well-known humanitarian and distinguished member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, I.C. Shah of Rochester, New York, died on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, in Sarasota, Florida, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, I.C. Shah was the personification of the American immigrant success story; born in 1938, in Mumbai, India, then under British colonial rule, he came to America to enhance his studies at Michigan State University; and

WHEREAS, From there he found great success as one of Xerox's first Asian/Indian salespeople; he always thought he was capable of more, so in 1976, I.C. Shah began his own telecommunications firm, ICS Telecom; and

WHEREAS, This insightful entrepreneur soon parlayed a personal loan and 32 credit cards into a telecommunications empire with multiple locations throughout New York and more than 80 employees; and

WHEREAS, However, I.C. Shah's mark was perhaps felt nowhere more significantly than within Rochester where he was a dedicated humanitarian, friend, and mentor to many; and

WHEREAS, Working with the Boys and Girls Club, Rochester Broadway Theatre League, Champion Academy, Urban League, India Community Center of Rochester, and many other charity and advocacy groups, I.C. Shah's dedication with both his time and resources has undoubtedly improved the lives of thousands within the Rochester area; and

WHEREAS, I.C. Shah is survived by his wife, Cheryl; and his two son, Raj and his wife, Adrienne; and Jon and his wife, Cassie; as well as four grandchildren, Maya, Tara, Sloane and Nolan; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, I.C. Shah leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, Proud of his heritage, and wanting to help others, I.C. Shah founded and funded DIAL - Development of Indo American Leaders; it was a leadership development program for the Indian community that has since become part of the United Way; he has been an amazing mentor and

guide to many in Rochester's Indian and Hindu community, who continue to carry on his legacy and leadership in the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of I.C. Shah, and to express its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of I.C. Shah.