

BY: Senator ORTT

CONGRATULATING William Hilts, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 35 years of dedicated service to the Niagara County Sportfishing Promotion program

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens of this great Empire State who have dedicated themselves to serving their community and increasing the residents' quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate William Hilts, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 35 years of dedicated service to the Niagara County Sportfishing Promotion program; and

WHEREAS, William Hilts, Jr. has honorably served as the Coordinator for the Niagara County Sportfishing Promotion program for the past 35 years; he will officially retire from this important position on Friday, February 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The Niagara County Sportfishing Promotion program has thrived since its founding under the leadership and guidance of William Hilts, Jr. and his dedicated team; and

WHEREAS, In his role as Coordinator, William Hilts, Jr. helped form the Lake Ontario Sportfishing Promotion Council in the 1990s in order to develop a cohesive marketing strategy for Lake Ontario and oversaw the use of \$1 million to make Lake Ontario a world-renowned angling destination; and

WHEREAS, William Hilts, Jr. is an award-winning photographer and writer in the world of outdoor media and continues to follow in his father's footsteps by publishing his work in local news and magazines; and

WHEREAS, For over three decades, William Hilts, Jr. was dedicated, creative and valuable to the Niagara County Sportfishing Promotion program, truly earning the admiration, appreciation and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a strong blend of ingenuity, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by William Hilts, Jr. during his lifetime of promoting sportfishing and the outdoor culture to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession 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 congratulate William Hilts, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 35 years of dedicated service to the Niagara County Sportfishing Promotion program, 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 William Hilts, Jr.