

BY: Senator AKSHAR

CONGRATULATING Mark Bordeau upon the occasion of his retirement as Director of Food Services after many years of distinguished service to Broome-Tioga BOCES

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens of this great Empire State who have devoted themselves to faithfully serving the best interests of their community and the needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Mark Bordeau upon the occasion of his retirement as Director of Food Services after many years of distinguished service to Broome-Tioga BOCES; and

WHEREAS, A certified School Nutrition Executive with more than three decades of experience managing child nutrition programs in over 15 school districts across New York State, Mark Bordeau began his illustrious career as Director of Food Services at Broome-Tioga BOCES in March of 1999; he will officially retire from this esteemed position on Thursday, June 3, 2021; and

WHEREAS, BOCES is a unique and innovative educational institution which was established to help public schools control costs and provide quality programs by sharing services; this vital institution operates as an extension of the local school districts and the New York State Education Department; and

WHEREAS, One of 37 such entities around the state, Broome-Tioga BOCES serves 15 component school districts in Broome and Tioga Counties, annually touching the lives of nearly 35,000 students in grades K-12 and many others in adult programs; and

WHEREAS, Mark Bordeau has truly centered his life around public service and finding new ways to give back to his community through the development of strategic partnerships to bring people together, as well as through his tireless fundraising efforts; he has also been instrumental in positively influencing legislation related to school nutrition programs; and

WHEREAS, As a member and past President of the New York School Nutrition Association, Mark Bordeau created, developed and successfully implemented a nationally recognized Farm to School program and brought over 100 coalition partners together; and

WHEREAS, While focusing on food quality and safety assurance, this extraordinary man also spearheaded the efforts to provide for families in need to ensure every child receives high-quality food while attending school; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mark Bordeau led a program which distributed more than two million emergency food boxes to families in need throughout the local community; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to his profession, Mark Bordeau has launched countless successful food service programs integrating government, industry and community stakeholders, including School Breakfast After the Bell, which provided schoolchildren with free breakfast, increasing servings from 6,000 to 13,000 a day; and

WHEREAS, Mark Bordeau has been the proud recipient of numerous awards and accolades, including the FAME Golden Director of the Year by the School Nutrition Association, Leadership and Partnership Award by the School Administrators Association of New York State, Full Circle Award by the Food Bank of the Southern Tier, National School Lunch Director of the Year by the School Nutrition Association, and the Anne B. Gennings Award by the New York School Nutrition Association (NYSNA); and

WHEREAS, With a steadfast and unwavering commitment to his community, Mark Bordeau has given tirelessly of his time and energies to countless organizations, some of which include the Broome County Cornell Cooperative Extension, Broome County Arena Board, Town of Binghamton Zoning Board of Appeals, Broome County Child Hunger Task Force, Food Bank of the Southern Tier, New York School Nutrition Association (NYSNA) and the School Nutrition Association; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Mark Bordeau served Broome-Tioga BOCES with intelligence and caring dedication, truly earning the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, leadership, intellect, and commitment as that demonstrated by Mark Bordeau over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Mark Bordeau upon the occasion of his retirement, and to wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mark Bordeau.