Senate Resolution No. 1713

BY: Senator GRIFFO

CONGRATULATING Theresa M. Pristera upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commemorate and recognize certain milestones celebrated by citizens of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Theresa M. Pristera upon the occasion of her 100th Birthday to be celebrated Saturday, March 2, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Theresa "Tree" Froio, of Rome, New York, was born to Bernard Froio and Theresa Tallerino on March 2, 1924; she grew up with nine siblings: six brothers, Tony, Patsy, Ralph, Joseph, Tubby, and Benny; and three sisters, Mary, Catherine, and Connie; and

WHEREAS, At a young age, Theresa M. Froio realized that she needed to work to financially contribute to the household and obtain goods that she and her family needed; her first job was in the bean lots, succeeded by working in the local mills; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after graduating from Rome Free Academy in 1942, Theresa M. Froio took a train trip with her sisters, Connie and Kay, from Rome to Utica; at Utica's train station, she met a sailor, Carmen T. Pristera; they were married on October 23, 1947, in Rome; and

WHEREAS, The following year the couple started their family, blessed with their first son, Carmen J., followed by Anthony's arrival two years later; Theresa M. Pristera became homesick so they moved from Utica to Rome where Bernice was born in 1952, followed by David in 1957; and

WHEREAS, Working for 20 years at Carl's Drug Store made it possible for Theresa M. Pristera to monetarily contribute toward the purchase of a ranch home on four acres of land; some time later, her husband's health forced him to retire which prompted her to retire so she could care for him; she also tirelessly helped care for her grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, After 43 years of marriage, Carmen T. Pristera died on October 28, 1990, at the age of 64; and

WHEREAS, Theresa M. Pristera has witnessed many pandemics and plagues as well as their medical cures; she credits taking care of her health as the reason she has lived such a long and fulfilled life; she has had the opportunity to enjoy time with her 11 grandchildren and 17

great-grandchildren; she remains independent, still shopping for her own groceries; and

WHEREAS, Theresa M. Pristera, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, Theresa M. Pristera has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the vibrant charm and infinite wisdom which come only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments, and outstanding achievements of this Nation during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Theresa M. Pristera upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Theresa M. Pristera.