Assembly Resolution No. 152

BY: M. of A. Norris

HONORING James A. Powers upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Lifetime Achiever Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce on March 9, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those distinguished citizens who would devote their life's work and purpose to community service, contributing to the welfare of the citizens of their communities and 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 honor James A. Powers upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Lifetime Achiever Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its 50th Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at Samuel's Grande Manor in Clarence, New York; and

WHEREAS, James A. Powers is receiving this prestigious award for his steadfast and unremitting commitment to his beloved community of Clarence; and

WHEREAS, In service to his community, James A. Powers was a member of the Clarence Board of Education for 21 years, including 15 years as Board President; during that period, he helped guide the board and district through significant changes in school population; he was also active with the Regional and State School Board Association; in 2007 he was inducted into the Clarence High School Wall of Fame for his contributions to the Clarence School District; and

WHEREAS, For two years, James A. Powers gave of his time to operate as the hands-on local project manager for the construction and opening of a house for 26 homeless veterans in Buffalo, New York; and

WHEREAS, He and his wife are members of the Nativity of B.V.M Parish, where Jim has served on numerous parish committees; and

WHEREAS, James A. Powers served as President of the Clarence Community Food Pantry Board of Directors from 2005 to 2022; this food pantry was the Clarence Chamber of Commerce's Organization of the Year in 2012; and

WHEREAS, When youth soccer came to Clarence in the 70's, Jim got involved, first as a coach of house and travel league teams, and then as President of the Soccer Club; due to the explosive growth of the sport, he conceived the idea of a large complex of fields and facilities and led the project to bring the idea to fruition as the Clarence Soccer Center, using local contractors and parental volunteers; and

WHEREAS, James A. Powers served for 27 years as a weekly volunteer reader for the Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service which uses radio

and the internet to bring print material such as books, magazines, and newspapers, to thousands of blind and visually impaired individuals in Western New York and Southern Ontario; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Kathleen, and children, Kevin, Amy, and Mark, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence 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 honor James A. Powers upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James A. Powers.