Assembly Resolution No. 556

BY: M. of A. Kelles

CELEBRATING the life and accomplishments of Irene Wald Stein, humanitarian, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her 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, It is with profound sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Irene Wald Stein, noting the significance of her purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wald Stein passed away on March 26, 2023, at the age of 92; and

WHEREAS, Born on July 27, 1930, to immigrant parents in Boston, Massachusetts, Irene Wald Stein faced societal expectations and limitations based on her gender and ethnicity, yet she refused to live within those confines and achieved academic and professional excellence; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wald Stein's commitment to education and social justice led her to graduate from Boston University, earn a master's degree in Child Development and Family Relationships from Cornell University, and a doctorate in the evaluation of social and educational programs from the same institution; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wald Stein served the community through both her employment and volunteer work, including as an evaluation consultant, Elderly Grants Coordinator, Aging Services Planner, and Director of the Tompkins County Office for the Aging; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Irene Wald Stein's organizing skills and leadership roles as an engaged citizen at the local, state, and national levels, including serving as a Chair of a Tompkins County civic engagement organization for almost 30 years, made her an invaluable mentor, advisor, and friend; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wald Stein's incredible commitment to ensuring women's leadership at every level was remarkable and exemplary; and

WHEREAS, This incredible woman's passion for reading, travel, and the arts, and her love for her family, including her three children, Melanie, Margaret, and David, and her late husband Peter, were central to her life and legacy; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wald Stein's dedication to social justice, democracy, and giving voice to the marginalized and underrepresented among us, will continue to inspire and guide us all; and

WHEREAS, Irene Wald Stein's infinite selflessness and benevolence will shine on through her family's vivid and happy memories; her insight and strength will forever serve as a beacon of love, light and hope to the countless lives she touched; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Irene Wald Stein leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing woman; she will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Irene Wald Stein, humanitarian, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Irene Wald Stein.