Assembly Resolution No. 960

BY: M. of A. Lupardo

COMMENDING Broome County Office for Aging upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary

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 sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Broome County Office for Aging upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Members of older generations have helped build and shape our Nation to be the greatest in the world; they have defended our freedoms and values to ensure that those who come after them may have better lives; nowhere in the Nation is the legacy of their efforts more visible and more a part of the lives of all citizens than here in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Older Americans Act (OAA) was passed in 1965 as part of President Johnson's "Great Society" initiative with the goal of supporting older Americans to live at home and in the community with dignity and independence for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) were established under the Older Americans Act (OAA) in 1973; Broome County Office for Aging (OFA) was established in 1974; and

WHEREAS, During the 1970s, the OFA provided 2,000 information and assistance contacts, 8,300 home-delivered meals, 79,000 senior center meals, and 15,000 transportation rides to those individuals without options or resources; and

WHEREAS, Some services, such as the Foster Grandparents Program (FGP), Yesteryears Group Respite, and in-home personal care, were not provided then but are available to assist individuals who require these programs today; and

WHEREAS, In 2023, the statistics for OFA's provisions had drastically increased; 18,219 information and assistance contacts, 172,140 home-delivered meals, 52,755 congregate meals, and 19,556 transportation rides were furnished for older community members in need; and

WHEREAS, Amendments to the Older Americans Act in 2006 broadened its scope of the advancement of long-term care, focusing on empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their care through the development of Aging and Disability Resource Centers, enabling older adults to live healthier lives through the implementation of evidence-based disease and disability prevention programs, and assisting high-risk older adults in delaying premature nursing home placement through consumer-directed services; and

WHEREAS, The success of Broome County Office for Aging is in direct correlation to the efforts of its members, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proudly moved to commend the members of Broome County Office for Aging, past and present, who have labored so conscientiously to secure and improve the quality of life for the community it serves; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Broome County Office for Aging upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Broome County Office for Aging.