Senate Resolution No. 1638

BY: Senator STEC

HONORING Chris Akey upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2026 Businessperson of the Year Award

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those outstanding individuals whose entrepreneurial spirit, leadership, and dedication to community service significantly contribute to the economic vitality and well-being 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 honor Chris Akey upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2026 Businessperson of the Year Award by the North Country Chamber of Commerce at its 114th Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, January 30, 2026, at the Warren Ballroom at SUNY Plattsburgh; and

WHEREAS, Based in Plattsburgh, Chris Akey has demonstrated exceptional leadership and vision through his longstanding association with Taylor Rental, where he began his career more than 20 years ago; and

WHEREAS, His professional journey was shaped early on through his work at his grandparents' business, Farm and Family, where he developed the strong work ethic and customer-first philosophy that continue to guide his leadership and success today; and

WHEREAS, Under his direction, Taylor Rental has flourished, and his entrepreneurial drive has expanded into a diverse portfolio of businesses serving communities across the North Country, including Commercial Sales and Cardinal Ace Hardware, among others; and

WHEREAS, Chris Akey's accomplishments reflect not only business growth and innovation, but also a sustained commitment to reinvesting in the North Country and creating meaningful, long-term economic impact throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Carrying forward the Akey family's longstanding and respected presence in the local business community, he exemplifies excellence in business leadership and entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, Beyond his professional achievements, Chris Akey has demonstrated a steadfast dedication to community service, having served on the CVPH Foundation Board and the North Country Cancer Fund, and supporting numerous local fundraisers and community initiatives that strengthen and uplift the region; and

WHEREAS, Known for his problem-solving approach and commitment to assisting customers and neighbors alike, Chris Akey has earned the respect of colleagues, employees, and community members throughout the North Country; and

WHEREAS, The designation of Chris Akey as the 2026 Businessperson of the Year appropriately recognizes his entrepreneurial success, leadership, integrity, and enduring commitment to the prosperity and well-being of the North Country; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Chris Akey upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2026 Businessperson of the Year Award by the North Country Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Chris Akey.