

Senate Resolution No. 2041

BY: Senator WEBB

MOURNING the death of Floyd "Todd" Peterson III, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his 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, Floyd "Todd" Peterson III of Ithaca, New York, died on July 30, 2021, at the age of 60; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Peterson distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, A true performer at his core, Floyd Peterson was a baton twirler, dancer, model, actor, acrobat, magician, ice dancer, and puppeteer; and

WHEREAS, Reaching great heights with his impressive range of skills, Floyd Peterson was inducted into the Baton Twirling Hall of Fame in 1994, danced in the Broadway production of "Cats" with Gregory and Maurice Hines, and was featured in music videos and a Dr. Pepper commercial; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Peterson worked in the Poconos as a director of theater at Camp Summit, performed at the New York State Fair, danced for the Ithaca Festival, and was one of the last performers at the Schoellkopf Field July 4th celebrations; and

WHEREAS, An admired educator, Floyd Peterson worked at every school in the Ithaca School District, spending 38 years with students in an array of positions; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Peterson directed and choreographed musicals, and was the founding choreographer of "Running To Places"; and

WHEREAS, With a belief in every individual he had the pleasure of working with, Floyd Peterson shined in the creation of performing groups; he was involved with Thunderbolts Marching Corps and Todd Peterson Dancers, fostering and highlighting the abilities of individuals from all walks of life, regardless of age, gender, or disability; and

WHEREAS, From 1988 to 2018, Floyd Peterson led the Ithaca Youth Bureau's Stewart Park Day Camp with warmth, creativity, and unwavering passion; and

WHEREAS, For his life of selflessness, leadership, and service, the

new Picnic Pavilion at Stewart Park was dedicated to the memory of Floyd Peterson on May 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional man, Floyd Peterson, influenced thousands of kids throughout the decades, many of whom were his nieces and nephews who loved their "Uncle Toddy," and he adored them in return; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Peterson's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Floyd Peterson leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourning the death of Floyd "Todd" Peterson III; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Floyd "Todd" Peterson III.