

BY: Senator HARCKHAM

MOURNING the death of Thomas Joseph Belcastro, distinguished veteran, dedicated public servant, respected civic leader, and beloved family patriarch

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, Thomas Joseph Belcastro died peacefully on March 5, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family, after a life distinguished by devoted public service, military honor, professional achievement, and unwavering commitment to his family and community; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joseph Belcastro was born on January 5, 1940, in Kingston, Pennsylvania, to the late Joseph and Margaret Belcastro; and

WHEREAS, Following his graduation from Kingston High School, Thomas Joseph Belcastro answered the call to serve his nation by entering the United States Navy shortly after his seventeenth birthday, proudly serving from 1957 to 1961; and

WHEREAS, During his naval service, Thomas Joseph Belcastro served primarily aboard the USS DeSoto and was recognized as a plank owner of the vessel, carrying forward a proud family tradition of military service inspired by his brother, Eugene, a World War II naval officer; and

WHEREAS, Upon receiving an honorable discharge from the United States Navy, Thomas Joseph Belcastro embarked upon a distinguished professional career with International Business Machines Corporation, where he served for more than three decades, including as Europe/Middle East/Africa Division Manager, working in White Plains, New York, and Paris, France, and earning membership in IBM's Quarter Century Club; and

WHEREAS, Following his retirement from IBM, Thomas Joseph Belcastro continued his professional pursuits with The AB Wolle Corporation in Scarsdale, New York, eventually becoming the owner of the company; and

WHEREAS, Deeply committed to civic engagement and public service, Thomas Joseph Belcastro dedicated many years to local and county government and Republican Party leadership in Westchester County and the Town of North Salem; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joseph Belcastro served with distinction as a North Salem Town Councilman for 16 years, Deputy Supervisor, Chairman of the North Salem Republican Committee, long-time Treasurer of the Westchester County Republican Committee, and Chairman of the United States Selective Service System Appeal Board for New York State District 556; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joseph Belcastro also devoted himself to numerous civic and charitable organizations, including the Katonah Rotary Club, where he served as both a member and past president; and

WHEREAS, Known for his wisdom, integrity, and calm leadership, Thomas Joseph Belcastro earned the admiration and respect of colleagues, neighbors, friends, and family alike through his generosity, guidance, and steadfast devotion to public service and community betterment; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joseph Belcastro is survived by his beloved wife, Beth; his sons, Nicholas Belcastro and Daniel Belcastro, and their wives; his sisters, Marlene Moses and Dona Klein; his nine cherished grandchildren; and his two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, He was predeceased by his brother, Eugene Opet; his sisters, Frances Martin and Dorothy Knelly; his infant son, Thomas Belcastro Jr.; his daughters, Jean-Marie Belcastro and Annette Belcastro White; and Irene Belcastro; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Thomas Joseph Belcastro leaves a profound void in the lives of his family, friends, colleagues, and all those fortunate enough to have known him; however, his legacy of patriotism, leadership, kindness, and dedication to community service will long endure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Thomas Joseph Belcastro, recognizing his distinguished life of military service, civic leadership, and devotion to family and community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Thomas Joseph Belcastro.