

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING Beth Irons upon the occasion of her retirement as Market Manager of the Oneida County Public Market after years of dedicated service to the Mohawk Valley community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished individuals whose dedication, leadership, and service have strengthened their communities and enriched the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Beth Irons upon the occasion of her retirement as Manager of the Oneida County Public Market, after more than a decade of exemplary service to Oneida County and the greater Mohawk Valley region; and

WHEREAS, Beth Irons has served as Market Manager of the Oneida County Public Market since March of 2012, helping to transform the market into a thriving year-round destination supporting local farmers, artisans, producers, and small businesses throughout the Mohawk Valley; and

WHEREAS, Under her leadership, the Oneida County Public Market became widely recognized not only as a place to purchase fresh local goods, but as a vibrant community gathering space promoting food access, regional agriculture, small business development, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, Beth Irons played a vital role in the continued growth and sustainability of the market, including its transition in 2019 to a program of the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County within its Agricultural Economic Development Department; and

WHEREAS, Through her tireless efforts, Beth Irons helped create a welcoming, family-friendly environment at the historic Union Station, drawing thousands of residents and visitors annually to support local vendors and celebrate the region's agricultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her local impact, Beth Irons has served as a respected leader within the broader farmers market community, including serving as Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Farmers Market Federation of New York, helping to strengthen public markets across the state; and

WHEREAS, Beth Irons brought decades of professional experience, compassion, and dedication to her work, earning the admiration and gratitude of vendors, customers, community organizations, and colleagues alike; and

WHEREAS, The success and enduring legacy of the Oneida County Public

Market stands as a testament to Beth Irons' vision, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the people and communities of Oneida County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Beth Irons upon the occasion of her retirement as Manager of the Oneida County Public Market, recognizing her many years of distinguished service and extending to her its deepest gratitude and best wishes for a future filled with happiness, health, and continued success; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Beth Irons as an expression of the esteem and admiration of this Legislative Body.