Assembly Resolution No. 1191

BY: M. of A. Lupardo

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of the Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that the quality and character of life in this great Empire State is greatly enriched by the faithful and diligent work of those organizations which serve to meet the needs of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment; and

WHEREAS, The Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment (AVRE) is a private, non-profit organization that creates opportunities for success and independence with people who are blind or visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, Serving the Southern Tier of New York since 1926, AVRE clinical staff provide a range of vision rehabilitation services to people of all ages across its nine-county service territory - Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schuyler, Tioga, and Tompkins; its business division includes the manufacture of a variety of paper-based office products, customized contract packaging, and several switchboard operations; and

WHEREAS, The AVRE Downtown Binghamton facility houses its administrative and clinical staff offices, as well as the majority of its Business Division; and

WHEREAS, AVRE staffs and manages switchboards at two VA Hospitals downstate - Castle Point and Montrose; and

WHEREAS, The revenue generated from the AVRE Business Division is invested into the Vision Rehabilitation department thereby offsetting the cost of providing services; and

WHEREAS, Over 90% of AVRE's employees are blind or visually impaired, including its President/CEO, Ken Fernald; and

WHEREAS, AVRE's Vision Rehabilitation department offers Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (VRT), Low Vision Exams, Orientation & Mobility Training, Functional Vision Assessments and Vision Impairment Connect Program, Case Management, and Support Services; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those organizations which unselfishly devote their energy, talent and thoughtful care on behalf of improving the quality and dignity of life in the community, are worthy and due full praise and recognition for their noble and dedicated efforts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment.