Assembly Resolution No. 1489

BY: M. of A. Peoples-Stokes

CONGRATULATING Dottie Gallagher upon the occasion of her retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors have contributed immeasurably to the economic vitality and well-being of the communities 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 congratulate Dottie Gallagher upon the occasion of her retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership in June 2026; and

WHEREAS, Dottie Gallagher has rendered more than a decade of exemplary service as the leader of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, the region's chamber of commerce and privately funded economic development organization, whose membership collectively employs more than a quarter of a million people across the Buffalo Niagara region; and

WHEREAS, Since assuming leadership in 2013, Dottie Gallagher has overseen the organization's mission to advocate for business-friendly public policies, promote workforce development, and foster meaningful connections among employers throughout Western New York; and

WHEREAS, Under her steadfast leadership, the Buffalo Niagara Partnership achieved national distinction, earning a prestigious 5-star Accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2020 and successfully attaining reaccreditation at the same elite level in 2025, a testament to the organization's excellence and impact; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her tenure, Dottie Gallagher has played a vital role in advancing initiatives critical to regional growth, including efforts to address workforce challenges, reduce structural barriers to employment, and promote greater economic inclusion across the community; and

WHEREAS, She has been a leading voice in collaborative economic development efforts across upstate New York, including service as the Buffalo convener of the NYSMART-I Corridor Tech Hub, helping to secure significant federal and state investment to support innovation and long-term growth; and

WHEREAS, Dottie Gallagher has also championed the revitalization of downtown Buffalo, encouraging business engagement and a renewed commitment to in-person collaboration as a means of strengthening local commerce and community life; and

WHEREAS, Her thoughtful leadership has extended to addressing

complex public policy issues, including energy affordability and reliability, ensuring that the needs of businesses and residents alike remain central to statewide discussions; and

WHEREAS, Prior to her tenure at the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Dottie Gallagher served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Visit Buffalo Niagara, the region's tourism promotion bureau, and before that, devoted nearly 15 years to The Buffalo News, where she served as a member of its executive management team; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her professional accomplishments, Dottie Gallagher has demonstrated an enduring commitment to community service through her participation on numerous boards dedicated to economic and civic development in the region; and

WHEREAS, Dottie Gallagher earned her undergraduate degree from Towson University, a Master of Business Administration from the University at Buffalo, and a Doctor of Commercial Science degree from Niagara University, reflecting her dedication to academic excellence and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, With her retirement, Dottie Gallagher leaves behind a stronger, more resilient organization, well-positioned for continued success and growth, and a legacy defined by vision, collaboration, and unwavering dedication to the Western New York community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the economic strength and civic fabric of their communities merit the highest recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Dottie Gallagher upon the occasion of her retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, and to commend her for her outstanding service to the people and businesses of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dottie Gallagher.