

BY: M. of A. McMahon

COMMENDING the Girl Scouts of Western New York upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Women of Distinction event, and paying tribute to this year's honorees

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge and celebrate individuals and events of significance which add vitality, sensitivity, understanding and inspiration to the diversity and value of the people of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Girl Scouts of Western New York upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Women of Distinction event, and to pay tribute to this year's distinguished honorees, on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at Salvatore's; and

WHEREAS, Throughout history, women have made significant contributions to every facet of society-shaping communities, leading change, and breaking barriers; and

WHEREAS, The Girl Scouts of Western New York annually honors exceptional individuals at its Women of Distinction celebration, recognizing those who embody the values of courage, confidence, and character and who make the world a better place; and

WHEREAS, The Women of Distinction honorees serve as role models for girls and women alike, demonstrating through their actions the power of leadership, service, and unwavering commitment to their communities; and

WHEREAS, This year's distinguished honorees include: Dr. Mary Bisbee-Burrows, CEO, Legacy Drama House Performance Arts Theatre; Jill Gerhart, Senior Vice President, Special Assets Support Services Manager M&T Bank; Trina Burruss, President & CEO, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County; Marie Carrubba, Executive Director, Independent Living Center; and the Girl Scouts of Troop 30350, along with members from Troop 70097 (Western New York) and Troop 823 (Central Maryland); and

WHEREAS, These honorees have excelled in their fields, mentored others, and uplifted the voices of women and girls across Western New York and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts of Western New York continues to empower the next generation of female leaders by providing access to transformative programs in STEM, entrepreneurship, outdoor leadership, and life skills; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes that New York State is home to countless women who, through both traditional and non-traditional roles, have been and continue to be essential to the growth and richness of our cultural heritage, weaving strength,

diversity, and leadership into the very fabric of our society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Girl Scouts of Western New York upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Women of Distinction event, and to pay tribute to this year's honorees for their exemplary achievements, leadership, and commitment to empowering others; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the aforementioned 2025 Women of Distinction honorees.