

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard Hannis upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition for his outstanding community service through SCORE and the Upstate NY Rural Initiative

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hannis has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard Hannis upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition for his outstanding community service through SCORE and the Upstate NY Rural Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hannis has done exceptional volunteer work throughout New York State through SCORE and the Upstate NY Rural Initiative Corporation promoting business entrepreneurship and small business development in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hannis has been a volunteer mentor with SCORE since 1996; currently, he serves as district director, leading all SCORE chapters in Upstate New York; his home chapter is Greater Binghamton SCORE; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hannis has offered his years of business experience and expertise to colleges and universities throughout New York State, aiding schools in the development of their business departments and connecting students to career and job opportunities and SCORE counseling and workshop services that would have otherwise remained unavailable to them; and

WHEREAS, Most recently, Richard Hannis has dedicated himself to promoting rural economic development through the creation of the Upstate NY Rural Initiative Corporation, whose valuable programs provide counseling, consulting, and business education to rural small businesses and agribusinesses at all top ten Upstate SCORE chapters throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Under his vision and leadership, SCORE and the Upstate NY Rural Initiative Corporation are working with a network of Upstate universities, including Morrisville State College, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Cobleskill, Alfred State College, Cornell University, and Syracuse University to develop and provide valuable agribusiness seminars and workshops for receptive and eager audiences across the State; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hannis has been recognized throughout his career for his philanthropy and support of small businesses; in 1976, President Gerald Ford presented him with a special commendation for outstanding service at a White House ceremony; he was honored for his work in several projects designed to support small business and the United States economy; and

WHEREAS, From 1981-1984, Richard Hannis served as CEO of the New York Private Industry Council; in 1993, he helped start a business college in Bolovich, Russia, to help the country transition to a private sector economy following the collapse of the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Richard Hannis has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Richard Hannis has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richard Hannis upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition for his outstanding community service through SCORE and the Upstate NY Rural Initiative; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Richard Hannis.