

2023-J1976

Senate Resolution No. 1976

BY: Senator KENNEDY

MOURNING the death of Terri Legierski, dedicated advocate for social justice and workers' rights, and a devoted member of her community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Terri Legierski of Buffalo, New York died on Monday, February 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Terri Legierski distinguished herself in her profession and by her sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of her community; and

WHEREAS, A prominent figure of Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 1133 of Buffalo, Terri Legierski held the role of Legislative/Political Director, where she worked diligently to further the ideals of union advocacy and workers' rights across Western New York; and

WHEREAS, Widely known for her tireless efforts in the field of workers' rights and the labor movement, Terri Legierski developed a reputation founded on the principles of reliability, loyalty, passion,

and unrelenting dedication to a cause; and

WHEREAS, Her advocacy was not limited to words, but was evident in her actions, particularly, during challenging times like the workers' strike at Catholic Health and the funding issues faced by graduate students at University of Buffalo; in both scenarios, Terri Legierski selflessly sprang into action, playing a critical role in the shaping of the healthcare workers' and students' futures; and

WHEREAS, Terri Legierski was a fierce champion of the people whose voices often go unheard; she was fearless and determined, especially when leading negotiations at bargaining tables and organizing workers to fight for better wages and working conditions for the betterment of countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, With a true understanding of solidarity, Terri Legierski stood shoulder to shoulder with those who are marginalized and oppressed, dedicating her life to fighting for a more just and equitable world for all; and

WHEREAS, Her passion, courage, and unwavering commitment to justice will continue to inspire the individuals with whom she worked with for many years to come; her legacy of boundless compassion and her inspirational spirit are worthy of the highest praise from the citizens of this State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Terri Legierski is survived by her husband, Mike; children, Tommy and Megan; daughter-in-law, Veronica; and grandchildren, Landon and Declan; and

WHEREAS, Terri Legierski's commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including

charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, With a true sense of the importance of community and generosity, Terri Legierski could often be found volunteering her time at local food banks and organizing fundraisers for anyone in need; she never stopped working toward making her community, and, therefore, the State and Nation at large, a more compassionate and caring place; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Terri Legierski leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Terri Legierski, dedicated advocate for social justice and workers' rights, and a devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Terri Legierski.