

2009-J103

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Vithalbhai Patel upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Community Service Award by the North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. Vithalbhai Patel upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Community Service Award by the North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center, to be celebrated on Friday, January 30, 2009, in Whitesboro, New York; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vithalbhai Patel was born in 1936 in Baroda, India; he completed primary, secondary, and high school education, as well as medical education in India; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patel attended medical college in Baroda graduating in 1963, and immigrated to the United States that same year; he became a naturalized citizen in 1976, and sponsored his three brothers, three sisters, nieces and nephews, allowing them all to immigrate to America; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patel specialized in general psychiatry and spent most of his career at Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center, Central New York Psychiatric Center, and St. Luke's Hospital in Utica; his charitable and philanthropic career began in 1985; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patel reprinted and redistributed over 3,000 copies of published religious song books in the Indian language to families of his community living in India and the United States; in Totarmata village in Gujarat state, he provided a water purification plant to the villagers, and had a concrete road built there in 2000; and

WHEREAS, In Suryagettoda village in Gujarat state, Dr. Patel renovated

the school, provided needed furniture, had a library built in his grandparent's name, provided a water purification plant for the students and staff of the school, and had toilet facilities built for the students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patel also contributed to the construction of a maternity hospital on the grounds of his medical college in Baroda; in the United States, he supports the North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center, the Stanley Performing Arts Center, and the public library of New Hartford; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patel is a great motivator, role model, and leads by example; he and his wife Ruxmaniben have three children and six grandchildren; his generosity and eagerness in enriching the lives of others is a true example of community service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Vithalbhai Patel's distinguished record merits the recognition and respectful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. Vithalbhai Patel upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Community Service Award by the North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Vithalbhai Patel.