

2009-J674

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Maria Neira upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition as recipient of the Distinguished Trailblazer Award by the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York

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, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose lives, personal endeavors, spirit, service and courage are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Maria Neira upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition as recipient of the Distinguished Trailblazer Award by the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the organization's annual Women of Distinction Dinner, to be held on Thursday, March 26, 2009, at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York (GSNENY) was created in June 2007 from the union of four Girl Scouts Councils (Hudson Valley, Mohawk Pathways, Adirondack and North Country) and now serves Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Greene, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Montgomery, Hamilton, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington, and a portion of St. Lawrence counties; and

WHEREAS, GSNENY is committed to serving over 14,500 girls and their families, and 6,500 adults and volunteers; its presence increases the capacity of the Girl Scouts to meet the rapidly changing needs of today's girls and achieves its goals of program delivery, volunteer

management and funding; and

WHEREAS, Reaching out to girls in rural areas and decreasing the barrier of distance for participation in Girl Scout activities and educational programming, GSNENY partners with local community organizations to provide Girl Scout opportunities for underserved families; and

WHEREAS, GSNENY continues to set the examples of leadership and self-determination that are an inherent part of the Girl Scout experience;

and

WHEREAS, Maria Neira is the First Vice President of the New York State United Teachers, and Vice President of the New York State AFL-CIO and American Federation of Teachers; and

WHEREAS, Active on numerous community boards, Maria Neira is an effective statewide advocate for education reform; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Maria Neira has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Maria Neira has displayed throughout her life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Maria Neira upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition as recipient of the Distinguished Trailblazer Award by the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Maria Neira, New York State United Teachers, 800 Troy-Schoenectady Road, Latham, New York 12110.