

2009-J3836

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Pugh Farm of Remsen, New York, upon the occasion of receiving the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society

WHEREAS, The agricultural industry is part of the foundation upon which our distinct American heritage is built; and

WHEREAS, New York State and the entire United States is dependent on our agricultural industry for a variety of food products; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Pugh Farm of Remsen, New York, upon the occasion of receiving the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the New York State Agricultural Society recognizes families dedicated to farming, stewardship, and community involvement in New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Agricultural Society began the illustrious Century Farm Program in 1937, which pays special tribute to New York farms in continuous operation on the same land by the same family for 100 years or more; and

WHEREAS, In 1905, Fred and Nellie Pugh, who had 25 cows and four horses, purchased a farm that set on 180 acres; and

WHEREAS, While managing the farm, Fred and Nellie Pugh also raised eleven children; they retired in 1944, and moved to the Village of Remsen; and

WHEREAS, Upon their retirement, Fred and Nellie Pugh's son, Byron, and his wife, Doris, purchased the farm; they moved from a rented farm in Steuben Valley and had a team of horses and 15 cows; they shared duties on that farm; Doris worked hard raising the chickens and selling eggs; and

WHEREAS, The milking on Pugh Farm was done by hand until 1946, and the field work was completed by horses until 1948; horses continued to be used for some farm work until the 1980s; the Pugh family purchased an additional 70 acres and built a large machinery storage barn and a secondary barn; and

WHEREAS, Through the years, Doris and Byron Pugh, along with their seven children continued to operate, expand and upgrade the farm; in 1982, their son Bradley, graduated from Remsen Central School and immediately went to work with his father, helping to operate the farm; and WHEREAS, Bradley Pugh's forward thinking led to the expansion of the farm with new Harvestore silos, a free-stall barn addition, milking parlor and state of the art tractors and equipment; Bradley and Byron continued to operate the farm together until Byron's passing in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Today, Bradley and Doris Pugh continue to manage the farm with the assistance of hired help; Bradley takes extreme pride in maintaining the machinery that supplies his crop needs as well as custom field work for several area farmers; he also continues to upgrade and expand his dairy operation and keeps up with the demands of the changing needs of the dairy industry; and

WHEREAS, As a result, in 2004, the farm received a state designation as a Dairy of Distinction; the farm is also a "Super Milk" achiever; and

WHEREAS, With full management duties and responsibilities, Bradley Pugh still finds the time to serve as a Boonville Co-op Director; his care and attention has brought two of the original farm barns into continued service; and

WHEREAS, The Pugh Farm has accomplished the rare distinction of three generations tending to the same farm; after 100 years of service they

continue to be a thriving and successful operation as well as good neighbors and a friend to all those in Steuben Valley; and

WHEREAS, Through their diligence and expertise, the Pugh family has brought pride and recognition to their farm, the local community, and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges the success of this exceptional family farm and its contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the sparkling successes it has experienced thus far; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Pugh Farm of Remsen, New York, upon the occasion of receiving the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Pugh Farm.