

## 2009-J6093

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Salustiano Sanchez upon the occasion of celebrating his 108th Birthday on June 8, 2010

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Salustiano Sanchez upon the occasion of celebrating his 108th Birthday on June 8, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Born in Spain, Salustiano "Shorty" Sanchez attended school in his native land through the sixth grade; he worked on his father's farm until he left at the young age of 17 to discover the world; and

WHEREAS, Determined to come to America, Salustiano Sanchez first found himself in Cuba, where he worked long and hard hours in the cane fields; undeterred, he persevered and arrived in the United States and immediately found employment as a mineworker in Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Salustiano Sanchez's work history was a product of his survival during the Great Depression; he also found work as a laborer in Michigan and a dishwasher in Chicago, prior to finally settling in Niagara Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, His first date in Niagara Falls was in 1934 with a young woman named Pearl Chiasera; that same year, she became his wife, as well as his companion, friend and mentor; and

WHEREAS, Together, on their life's journey, they soon purchased a home and raised a family with their son, John and daughter, Irene; he spent many hours working the factories in and around Niagara Falls, but always had time to grow his vegetables and grape gardens; and

WHEREAS, Today, Salustiano Sanchez is the loving grandfather of seven grandchildren and has 12 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Through his many travels and during his life, Salustiano

Sanchez self-educated himself and learned to write and speak eloquently both the English and Italian languages; and

WHEREAS, Salustiano Sanchez is a very serious man who also has a great sense of humor; he has gained a vast knowledge of current events by watching various news programs and reading the NIAGARA GAZETTE, and BUFFALO NEWS, as well as an array of magazines and books; and

WHEREAS, Once a determined young man from Spain, Salustiano Sanchez came to the United States, became a citizen and married the love of his life with whom he bought a home and raised a family; he is an exemplary example that with desire, hard work, and love of one's country, the American dream is possible; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with his zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of his family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Salustiano Sanchez has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This beloved man has enriched the lives of those around him through his joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves

contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Salustiano Sanchez upon the occasion of his 108th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Salustiano Sanchez.