

2009-J6482

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Walter Hernandez upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Men at Work Award from the SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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, Walter Hernandez has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Walter Hernandez upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Men at Work Award from the SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT; and

WHEREAS, Born in El Salvador in 1966, Walter Hernandez left the war-torn country as a teen in 1983 for California; and

WHEREAS, There, he met his future wife, Flor Amanda, originally from Honduras; her uncle, who lived in Sullivan County, convinced them to move there in 1986, where they found work and started a family; and

WHEREAS, After being laid off in the mid 1990s from a job with VAW in Ellenville, Walter Hernandez turned to Sullivan County's Center for Workforce Development in Monticello, which guided him into getting his GED from BOCES in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Armed with that critical piece of paper, Walter Hernandez became a professional tax preparer, eventually creating his own business, Walter's Income Tax, out of his Harris home; and

WHEREAS, Walter Hernandez also volunteered his expertise through a local program that offers tax counselling to the elderly; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he serves as an inspector for the Monticello Housing Authority, ensuring existing housing is up to par for residents;

and

WHEREAS, That is not what dominates the bulk of his time during the week; impressively, Walter Hernandez is employed full-time as a direct support professional, with the title of Advocate III for Crystal Run Village's group home in Monticello, New York; and

WHEREAS, For more than 12 years, Walter Hernandez has been the compassionate face of Crystal Run Village for many of its consumers, people who deal with developmental disabilities in their lives on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, His job is to serve as the lead health advocate for the 12 inhabitants of the home; he monitors and tracks residents' health issues, ensuring they get proper treatment when needed; while he doesn't replace professional medical care, he is often in a position to be the first to inform doctors and nurses about any current or potential health issues; and

WHEREAS, Those dozen residents are what inspire Walter Hernandez to fight his way through reams of paperwork and phone calls to ensure health and happiness within the home's walls; and

WHEREAS, Walter Hernandez has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Walter Hernandez has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Walter Hernandez upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Men at Work Award from the SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Walter Hernandez.