

2011-K111

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of William F. Walsh, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to individuals who distinguish themselves through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; one such individual is William F. Walsh, who died on January 8, 2011; and

WHEREAS, William F. Walsh was born on July 11, 1912, and was a graduate of Most Holy Rosary before receiving his Bachelor's degree from St. Bonaventure University, and a Masters degree from the University of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, From an early age, William Walsh had a natural affinity for leadership and politics and was named senior class president at both Most Holy Rosary and St. Bonaventure University; and

WHEREAS, William Walsh served his country as a member of the United States Army for five years, receiving an honorable discharge with the rank of Captain in 1946; and

WHEREAS, For 50 years, William Walsh was married to the late Mary Dorsey Walsh, and together they raised seven children on Syracuse's Tipperary Hill; and

WHEREAS, William Walsh spent his life in numerous public service positions including New York State Commission Against Discrimination, Onondaga County Commissioner of Welfare, New York State Public Service Commissioner, Mayor of Syracuse and as a member of the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, As Syracuse's Mayor from 1961 to 1969, William Walsh oversaw the building of many important city landmarks including The Everson Museum of Art and the AXA Towers; and

WHEREAS, William Walsh served as Mayor during the pivotal decade of the civil rights movement which led to many long-lasting changes for the City of Syracuse including the beginning of the desegregation of city schools; and

WHEREAS, After gaining prominence as vice president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors; William Walsh was elected to Congress in 1972,

where he served the 33rd Congressional District for three terms until he retired in 1979; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, the William F. Walsh Regional Transportation Center in Syracuse was named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, William Walsh was known as an avid sportsman, with a lifelong passion for golf and fishing; and

WHEREAS, William Walsh will always be remembered as an honest man with a great deal of integrity, who served his country with distinction and grace; and

WHEREAS, The long-term impact of this dedicated public servant will continue to be felt by the Central New York Region for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, William Walsh leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of William F. Walsh, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of William F. Walsh.