

## 2011-K338

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the righteous contributions to the people of Western New York and the outstanding achievements of Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld, Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth Zion, Buffalo, 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, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld 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 the righteous contributions to the people of Western New York and the outstanding achievements of Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld, Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth Zion, Buffalo, New York; and

WHEREAS, After 11 years of exemplary service to the residents of Western New York, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld will depart Congregation Beth Zion on June 17, 2011, to become the next Head Rabbi of Congregation Albert in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from John Carroll University in 1976; his education continued with a master's degree in Hebrew Letters and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1981; he is currently pursuing a Doctor of Jewish Studies degree through Spertus Institute of Judaica; and

WHEREAS, After serving as Assistant Rabbi in Memphis, Tennessee for 3 years, Rabbi Rosenfeld arrived in Anchorage, Alaska, in 1984, to serve as the Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom until the summer of 2000; in September of 2000, Rabbi Rosenfeld was called to the position of Senior

Rabbi of Temple Beth Zion in Buffalo, New York; and

WHEREAS, In this capacity, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld was instrumental in the expansion of the Temple's outreach to its members in need, as well as social justice programs within the Western New York community including Mitzvah Day, a day of caring in the community; and

WHEREAS, Under Rabbi Rosenfeld's luminous leadership, Temple Beth Zion became the first synagogue in the country to expand its Mitzvah Day partners to include a church and two mosques; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld 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, Active in the Anchorage Human Services Community, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld served as a member of the Municipal Health and Human Services Commission; he was co-chair of the Municipal Social Services Block Grant Allocation Task Force, a member of the Mayor's Special Taskforce on the Homeless, Chair of the Municipal Forum on the Homeless, Board Member of Catholic Social Services of Anchorage, Community Advisory Board Member to the Anchorage Daily News, and mentor for the Leadership Anchorage Program; and

WHEREAS, Today, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld serves on the Buffalo Board of Rabbis, of which he was President from 2005-2007, the Jewish Federations of North America Rabbinic Cabinet Executive Committee, and the board of the National Federation of Just Communities of Western New York; and

WHEREAS, Recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld has been honored with the NFJC Interfaith Community Leadership Award, United Jewish Communities National Rabbinical Award in 2004, and the Interfaith Council of Anchorage Inaugural Harry L. Rosenfeld Award, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this remarkable man was listed in WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA, WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN RELIGION, and OUTSTANDING YOUNG MEN OF AMERICA; and

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

WHEREAS, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld has lived his life with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for others; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld displayed throughout his life and throughout his leadership of the Temple Beth Zion for last 11 years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the righteous contributions to the people of Western New York and the outstanding achievements of Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld, Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth Zion, Buffalo, New York, and to wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld.