

2011-J1440

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Roger Bahnik upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by The Interfaith Nutrition Network

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, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Roger Bahnik upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by The Interfaith Nutrition Network; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the organization's 2011 INNkeepers Ball, to be held on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at the Long Island Marriott in Uniondale, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN) was founded in 1983 as a single soup kitchen run by a small group of concerned volunteers; working at a church in Hempstead, Long Island, the volunteers discovered that not only were there large numbers of hungry people on Long Island, but that individuals working together could make a difference in the lives of the homeless; and

WHEREAS, With the success of the Hempstead soup kitchen, The INN became a magnet for individuals who wanted to help those who were hungry in their own communities; by sharing knowledge, the volunteers began to form an interfaith network of soup kitchens to feed hungry Long Islanders, and soon after the Hempstead soup kitchen began operations, others opened in Long Beach, Freeport and Central Islip; and

WHEREAS, Today, The INN has grown to become the largest private social service agency of its kind on Long Island; there are a total of 19 soup kitchens, operating as part of The INN's network across Long Island, feeding more than 5,500 people each week; and

WHEREAS, The INN's single principle is that everyone be treated with dignity and respect; it is a working model of how to unite the community to overcome the challenge of hunger and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Born and educated in Switzerland, Roger Bahnik immigrated to the United States in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Roger Bahnik is the founder, owner and chief executive officer of Mill-Max Manufacturing Corporation of Oyster Bay, New York; it is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high reliability electronic connectors; and

WHEREAS, Serving on the boards of directors of the American Community Bank, the Council of Overseers of the Tilles in Brooklyn, New York, Roger Bahnik also is on the advisory boards of the Main Street Association and Friends of the Bay in Oyster Bay, and Old Westbury Gardens in Old Westbury; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Roger Bahnik, together with his wife, Lori, is Co-President of the Board of Trustees of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Oyster Bay/East Norwich; and

WHEREAS, Residing in Oyster Bay, New York, Roger and Lori Bahnik are the proud parents of two children and grandparents to six beloved grandsons; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Roger Bahnik has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Roger Bahnik has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Roger Bahnik upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by The Interfaith Nutrition Network; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Roger Bahnik, Oyster Bay, New York.