

## 2011-J2819

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Jose S. Sambursky, MD, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Jose S. Sambursky, MD, died in Vestal, New York, at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, In 1959, Jose S. Sambursky moved to Binghamton, New York, from Rio de Janeiro, and began his internship in Internal Medicine at Wilson Memorial Hospital; and

WHEREAS, He married Joyce Werner on August 14, 1960; he then completed a postgraduate ophthalmology program at the University of Pennsylvania before entering an ophthalmology residency at Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, which he finished in 1963; and

WHEREAS, After completion of his residency, he was awarded a fellowship in Advanced Anterior Segment Surgery and Retinal Surgery at the prestigious Barraquer Institute in Barcelona, Spain, from 1963 to 1964; and

WHEREAS, Following his fellowship, Jose and his wife and their two young children moved to Rio de Janeiro where he began his career in ophthalmology; after three years, the Sambursky family moved back to Binghamton, New York, where he joined his father-in-law, George B. Werner, MD, in the practice of ophthalmology establishing Ophthalmic Associates of the Southern Tier; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, his third son was born; Dr. Jose S. Sambursky was a man dedicated to his family, his friends and his patients; he loved the practice of medicine and was enthusiastic about teaching medicine to

students and residents; he was skillful in both the medical and surgical care of each patient; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jose S. Sambursky distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jose S. Sambursky's passion was not restricted to just medicine; it overflowed into his love for soccer and his family; he coached all his children on and off the soccer field, teaching lessons of life as well as sport; furthermore, he coached Vestal Youth Soccer for many years, and even took two travel teams to Europe; and

WHEREAS, He treated his players as family and served as a role model on and off the soccer field; as an ophthalmologist, he was always at the forefront of surgical techniques; he was one of the first eye surgeons in the United States to implant an intraocular lens which is now a common practice during cataract surgery; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Dr. Jose S. Sambursky was the first in his area to offer patients corneal transplantation as well as being one of the first in all of New York State; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding individual gave back to his community in numerous ways including by not charging patients who could not afford his care; for most of his career, he worked for one month a year in Brazil helping those less fortunate and bringing his expertise to South America; and

WHEREAS, He was passionate about teaching and was truly a complete ophthalmologist, being great at many different aspects of the medical and surgical treatment of eye diseases; and

WHEREAS, Later in his career, he incorporated an ocular diagnostic company with his sons which may transform how medicine will be practiced in the future; and

WHEREAS, Jose S. Sambursky loved the arts and was a supporter of both the symphony and the opera; he was a true renaissance man and loved

learning and sharing his knowledge with those around him; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his father, Isaac Sambursky, and his mother, Dora Sambursky, Dr. Jose S. Sambursky is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Joyce Werner Sambursky; his children, Daniel and his wife, Malvinia Sambursky, Ronald Sambursky and Linda Hlopko, Robert and Victoria Sambursky and Paulo Mordehachvili; five grandchildren, Isaac, Aaron, Rachel, Geoffrey and Lauren; one brother, Jayme P. (Sara) Sambursky; a niece, Claudia (Marceo) Blak; and a nephew Flavio Sambursky; as well as his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Ross and Leane Dicker, and their three children Robert, Meredith, and Matt Dicker; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Jose S. Sambursky, MD 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 Jose S. Sambursky, MD, 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 Jose S. Sambursky, MD.