

2011-J4113

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Carmi Rapport upon the occasion of being named Person of the Year by the Columbia County Association

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, Carmi Rapport 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 Carmi Rapport upon the occasion of being named Person of the Year by the Columbia County Association, to be celebrated on Wednesday, May 2, 2012; and

WHEREAS, After decades of membership in the Columbia County Association, Carmi Rapport was chosen for this most auspicious honor for a lifetime of contribution to his community; and

WHEREAS, Carmi Rapport was born in the Bronx to Albert and Marlene Rapport; Albert Rapport immigrated to the United States from present-day Israel to study engineering but became a real estate lawyer, practicing in Hudson, New York; and

WHEREAS, As a child, Carmi Rapport moved back and forth between Hudson and Great Barrington, Massachusetts, eventually graduating from Serles High School in 1949; and

WHEREAS, Carmi Rapport graduated from Yale University in 1953 with a bachelor's degree in political science; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), Carmi Rapport entered the Army upon graduating and served in South Korea as an officer in the Korean Civil Assistance Command for two years; and

WHEREAS, When Carmi Rapport returned to the United States, he earned his law degree from Columbia Law School and joined his father's law firm

in Hudson, and their partner Thomas Kennedy; and

WHEREAS, Carmi Rapport started doing personal injury trial work and eventually dabbled in most fields; and

WHEREAS, After his father's death in the 1970s, Carmi Rapport rebuilt the firm with Victor Meyers, Thomas Griffin and Carl Whitbeck; and

WHEREAS, The firm, now known as Rapport Meyers LLP, has a team of about a dozen lawyers; Carmi Rapport retains the title of senior counsel; and

WHEREAS, Carmi Rapport has also worked in radio, once working on a local channel to focus on social issues; he presently sits on the Executive Committee of WAMC Radio; and

WHEREAS, Carmi Rapport 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, Amongst Carmi Rapport's proudest accomplishments is helping to establish the Alice and Murray Giddings Scholarship, a fund which offers high school students college scholarships; and

WHEREAS, Carmi Rapport helped build the current synagogue of the conservative Jewish Congregation Anshe Emeth, on Joslen Boulevard in Greenport, as the general contractor, working closely with former president Morton Ginsberg; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Carmi Rapport was the first attorney for the local housing authority which built Bliss Towers in Hudson, New York; and

WHEREAS, A valued and involved member of his community, Carmi Rapport has been chairman of the Columbia County Bar Association, chairman and longtime trustee on the Columbia Memorial Hospital board, president of the local chapter of the Lion's Club, trustee of the Columbia-Greene Community College board of directors, Hudson Junior Chamber of Commerce

Man of the Year and a trustee and former chairman of the Taconic Community Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a

period of constructive involvement, Carmi Rapport has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 55 years, Marilyn, and their three children, Daniel, Sara and Seth, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Carmi Rapport 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 celebrated and 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 Carmi Rapport upon the occasion of being named Person of the Year by the Columbia County Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Carmi Rapport.