

2011-J5020

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 60th Anniversary of Temple Avodah of Oceanside, New York, to be celebrated on June 15, 2012

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 60th Anniversary of Temple Avodah of Oceanside, New York, to be celebrated at a Journal Dinner on Friday, June 15, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Temple Avodah began with an initial group of 15 families who met to discuss the need for a Reform Jewish Temple in their community; and

WHEREAS, On September 3, 1952, more than 50 families attended a community meeting, and unanimously passed a resolution to create a Temple; and

WHEREAS, A local nursery school served as temporary quarters for Temple Avodah's religious school and an Oceanside firehouse became the setting for its services; and

WHEREAS, By the end of Yom Kippur, 75 families had become members of Temple Avodah; and

WHEREAS, After ten months, the congregation had grown to 120 families and the religious school expanded far beyond its physical capacity; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to find larger, more suitable quarters, the Temple purchased four and a half acres of beautifully landscaped property, centrally located, complete with a ten-room building and large carriage house; and

WHEREAS, The ten-room, three story house, became the Temple's Religious School building and community house and the carriage house temporarily became the synagogue; and

WHEREAS, When almost four hundred persons attended the High Holidays in 1953, it became necessary to hold services out of doors; and

WHEREAS, With the realization of the rapid growth of the congregation and the inadequacy of the carriage house as a place of worship, a large Temple was raised; and

WHEREAS, Temple Avodah stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Temple Avodah, to be observed on June 15, 2012, fully confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Temple Avodah, Oceanside, New York.