

2013-J569

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Mohonk Preserve upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary on April 27, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals and organizations within the great State of New York that are dedicated to the vital work of environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Mohonk Preserve upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary on Saturday, April 27, 2013; and

WHEREAS, On this most auspicious occasion, the Mohonk Preserve will also be celebrating the Grand Re-opening of its Visitor Center; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Mohonk Preserve is to protect the Shawangunk Mountains by inspiring people to care for, enjoy, and explore the natural world; and

WHEREAS, For half a century, Mohonk Preserve has been a place of recreation, reflection, and restoration; and

WHEREAS, The origins of the Preserve date back to 1869, when twin brothers Albert and Alfred Smiley purchased Mohonk Lake and established the Mohonk Mountain House; and

WHEREAS, In 1963, the Smiley family, friends, neighbors and supporters formed the Mohonk Trust to protect the area's unique natural landscape for future generations; and

WHEREAS, In 1978, the Trust became Mohonk Preserve, and through the support of members, donors, and partners, the Preserve has been a leading voice for conservation, speaking with passion and authority to safeguard the natural lands in the Shawangunks, the Hudson Valley, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Before there was an official Earth Day, the Mohonk Preserve was already committing every day to sustaining a healthy environment through land protection and stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Ahead of today's No Child Left Inside movement, the Mohonk Preserve developed innovative environmental education programs that have gotten over 75,000 children into nature; and

WHEREAS, The Mohonk Preserve's Daniel Smiley Research Center is a preeminent resource of biological, weather and other natural history records spanning over a century; and

WHEREAS, Today, Mohonk Preserve is acknowledged as a global model for conservation on a regional scale, promoting preservation, land stewardship, science, and environmental awareness; and

WHEREAS, With the ongoing support of its partners and over 13,000 members, Mohonk Preserve stands ready to meet the challenges of conservation for the next century; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon all citizens to recognize and applaud the efforts of organizations such as the Mohonk Preserve that work tirelessly on behalf of protecting our natural surroundings for the benefit of present and future generations of New Yorkers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Mohonk Preserve upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary on April 27, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Glenn D. Hoagland, Executive Director of the Mohonk Preserve.