

2013-K1442

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending R. Daniel Soules, of Soules and Dunn Development Group, in recognition of his significant efforts toward the revitalization of Auburn, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those individuals and businesses which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend R. Daniel Soules, of Soules and Dunn Development Group, in recognition of his significant efforts toward the revitalization of Auburn, New York; and

WHEREAS, R. Daniel Soules is Senior Partner of Soules and Dunn Development Group; established more than 37 years ago, it is the parent company to Grant Avenue Development Inc./Arby's which owns and operates 38 Arby's Restaurants in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, as well as seven different real estate-based companies along the East Coast, Domino's Pizza, and Tim Hortons; the company employs more than 650 employees; and

WHEREAS, R. Daniel Soules is also President/Chief Executive Officer of Grant Avenue Development Inc./Arby's; raised in Weedsport, New York, and a former student at Cayuga Community College, this visionary business leader has a long-standing dedication to the City of Auburn and Cayuga County; and

WHEREAS, He has been joined in his endeavors by an impressive team of colleagues, key players who share his passion, including Mark G. Dunn, Vice President/Chief Financial Officer; Robert Kelley, Senior Vice President of Operations; and Michael Kapusta, Controller/CPA; and

WHEREAS, R. Daniel Soules was recognized in 2007 for the Graduate of Distinction award from Weedsport Central Schools and has pledged a life-

time perpetuity scholarship for the newly created Entrepreneurial Degree Program at Cayuga County Community College; and

WHEREAS, He has served on the boards of the Cayuga Museum, the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce, and Leadership Cayuga; in addition, he owns a privately held golf facility in Cayuga County; and

WHEREAS, One of several corporate offices for Grant Avenue Development is located in Auburn, and R. Daniel Soules, a true entrepreneur, has developed several concepts for independent businesses throughout Central New York; and

WHEREAS, His Plaza of the Arts project, slated to open in the summer of 2014, particularly illustrates R. Daniel Soules' genuine concern for the well-being and growth of his community; and

WHEREAS, The two-story, 20,000 square-foot building located in Auburn's creative corridor will house boutique-style restaurants, a retail pharmacy, and corporate and medical offices; tenants include Rosalie's Bakery, Yogarts, and Encore Eateries; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Plaza of the Arts will feature a major event space, and pedestrian-friendly park-like street areas with ample seating options, providing much-needed green space for relaxation and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, Plaza of the Arts will also be the new home of Soules and Dunn's corporate offices and an Arby's training facility, bringing hundreds of employees to Auburn, an economic boon for the area; and

WHEREAS, In spearheading Plaza of the Arts, R. Daniel Soules continues to demonstrate his commitment to promoting the best interests of the City of Auburn; his endeavors bespeak his vision of enhancing the strength of its economy through job creation, increasing the vitality and diversity of its cultural and entertainment offerings, and creating

an elegant and memorable environment for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Karol Soules, who is

very active in the community and is President of the Auburn Enlarged City School District Board of Education, and their two sons, Corey and Connor, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges R. Daniel Soules' efforts, recognizes Soules and Dunn Development Group's contributions to the local and State economies, and extends its highest commendation to the corporation and its employees, fully confident that, in its future, it will enjoy the same success which has so characterized its past; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend R. Daniel Soules of Soules and Dunn Development Group; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to R. Daniel Soules, Senior Partner of Soules and Dunn Development Group.