

2015-J213

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the life and distinguished career of Judge David W. Harrison, Sr.

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to publicly mourn the death of those distinguished citizens who would devote themselves to public service, demonstrating great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. of Ghent, New York, died on Saturday, December 20, 2014, at the age of 74; and

WHEREAS, David W. Harrison, Sr., affectionately known as Butch, was born in Philmont, New York, on July 26, 1940, to the late William J. Harrison and Jeanette Harrison; he was a lettered athlete and graduated from Ockawamick High School in 1958; and

WHEREAS, David W. Harrison, Sr. enlisted in the United States Army, and served his country as a member of the Army Security Agency; and

WHEREAS, In 1965, David W. Harrison, Sr. joined the New York State Police; for 24 years, he was an Investigator with the State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation in Claverack, New York; and

WHEREAS, After his retirement, David W. Harrison, Sr. worked for more than 10 years as Chief Investigator with the Columbia County District Attorney Paul Czajka; in 2002, he was elected to his first term as Ghent Town Judge, a position he still held at the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. was involved in several major crime investigations, and received many commendations; he also completed numerous training courses, including certification as a fire investigator and instructor; and

WHEREAS, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to

the welfare of his neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr.'s commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Truly involved with his community, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. was a 52 year member of the Spencertown Fire Company, and a social member of the Ghent and Chatham Fire Departments; he was also a member of the Ghent Reformed Church; and

WHEREAS, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. was a member and past commander of American Legion Post No. 42 in Chatham, New York, he was also a member of the Ghent Veterans of Foreign Wars; the Ghent Rod & Gun Club, and both the New York State and Columbia County Magistrates Association; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by a brother, Rudy Harrison, and a sister, Geri Clay, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, June L. (Judy) Harrison; two sons, David (Kelly) Harrison, Jr., and Michael Harrison; two daughters, Maria (Larry) Ostrander, and Suzette (Chris) Booy; nine grandchildren, Daniel, Lee, Adam and Sarah Harrison, Ashley, Brian, and Colleen Ostrander, and Amanda and Emilee Booy; one sister, Dianne (David) Cox; and three brothers, Donald (Nancy) Harrison, William (Janet) Harrison, and Robert Harrison; as well as many nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Judge David W. Harrison, Sr. 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 celebrate the life and distinguished career of Judge David W. Harrison,

Sr., recognizing his loving labors and purposeful life, and conveying its sincere condolences to his beloved family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to the family of Judge David W. Harrison, Sr.