

2015-J379

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Anthony G. Collins upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Anthony G. Collins upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by a resolution in 2014 and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Anthony G. Collins earned an undergraduate civil engineering degree from Monash University, followed by master's and doctoral degrees from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania; prior to his doctoral studies, he worked for both Australian Consolidated Industries and Utah Development Company; and

WHEREAS, Upon receiving his Ph.D. in 1982, Dr. Anthony G. Collins launched his illustrious career at Clarkson University as an Assistant Professor of civil and environmental engineering; and

WHEREAS, Subsequently rising to the rank of Professor, Dr. Anthony G.

Collins also assumed increasing levels of administrative responsibility including Department Chair, Dean, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Provost; he is among the primary architects of the Vision of a Clarkson Education which has guided evolution of the curriculum since 1995; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Anthony G. Collins was elected the 16th President of Clarkson University in 2003, the esteemed position he continues to hold today; he now leads Clarkson's EVOLUTION TO EXCELLENCE, a comprehensive strategic plan elevating the University's academic reputation, strengthening its financial resources, and increasing the lifetime engagement of alumni and the greater Clarkson community; and

WHEREAS, A regional and national advocate for higher education, Dr. Anthony G. Collins has received awards for outstanding teaching, research, and advising; in addition, he has lectured globally, and is the author of more than 90 professional publications; and

WHEREAS, In July of 2011, Dr. Anthony G. Collins was appointed to serve as co-chair for the North Country Regional Economic Development Council; he also served on a commission in November of the following year to investigate and study utility companies' storm preparation and management, as well as to recommend reforms to overhaul regulation of the entire system to better deal with emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Anthony G. Collins serves as President of the Seaway Private Equity Corporation which invests in new technology companies based in St. Lawrence County, New York; he is also a member of NYSERDA's Technology & Market Development Advisory Committee where he provides technical and policy guidance to NYSERDA on energy and environmental research; and

WHEREAS, In May of 2014, Dr. Anthony G. Collins was nominated to serve on the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, and in the summer of the same year, he was recognized as a New York State Extraordinary Broadband Leader; and

WHEREAS, A valued and involved member of the community he so ably serves, Dr. Anthony G. Collins is the Past Chair of the National Association of Independent Technological Universities, and a Chair Emeritus of New York's Commission of Independent Colleges and Universities; and

WHEREAS, Active within the Potsdam community, Dr. Anthony G. Collins provides volunteer service to numerous organizations and youth programs; in addition, he serves on the Boards of the CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity and the NYS Business Council; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife, Karen, who feels privileged to be a part of his life and rejoices in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Anthony G. Collins continues to live his life with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for human values and ideals; and

WHEREAS, Individuals such as Anthony G. Collins, devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth, are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Anthony G. Collins upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Anthony G. Collins.