

2015-J380

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dominick and Ross Violi upon the occasion of their designation as recipients 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 Dominick and Ross Violi upon the occasion of their designation as recipients 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, After nearly seven decades of operation, Violi's Restaurant served its last meal on September 27, 2014; brothers Dominick and Ross Violi have owned and operated the restaurant since 1961; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1945 by Dominick and Ross Violi's parents, Rosario and Maria, Violi's Restaurant first operated on Willow Street; in 1947, the family bought the building on Center Street where they remained until its closing; and

WHEREAS, A true fixture within the Massena community, Violi's Restaurant was a popular spot through the 1950s for workers building the

Reynolds Metals Plant, local baseball and softball teams, as well as the community-at-large; and

WHEREAS, During the late 1950s, Dominick Violi went to Italy and returned with a recipe that inspired him to create what would become a Violi's staple, saltimbocca a la Violi, a veal dish; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, after the brothers took over the restaurant, they added another of their most popular dishes, steak a la Violi, as a tribute to their mother and father; and

WHEREAS, Dominick and Ross Violi have not only been passionate businessmen, they have also been there for those who have been in need of assistance; whether raising funds for the local Hospice, the Louisville Fire Department, Trinity Catholic School, Massena Memorial Hospital or the Remington Museum, these extraordinary men have never wavered in their commitment to assist others; and

WHEREAS, Dominick and Ross Violi continue to live their lives with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for human values and ideals; and

WHEREAS, Individuals such as Dominick and Ross Violi, 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 Dominick and Ross Violi upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dominick and Ross Violi.