

## 2015-J465

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Temple Sinai of Saratoga Springs, New York, to be celebrated on June 14, 2015

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Temple Sinai, to be celebrated at numerous events throughout the year, culminating with a Gala Celebration on Sunday, June 14, 2015, in Saratoga Springs, New York; and

WHEREAS, Temple Sinai of Saratoga Springs is a reform synagogue offering spiritual outreach and contemporary approaches to traditional values; it offers a friendly, warm atmosphere, and programs which seek to meet the needs of members as well as the larger Jewish community; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed religious institution began in the early 1960s as a study group composed of 12 families whose love of learning nurtured a growing cadre of individuals interested in forming their own Jewish congregation; and

WHEREAS, In 1965, Temple Sinai was established as Saratoga's first Reform synagogue; since then, the congregation has grown to include more than 210 families and individual members representing a diversity of life styles, professions and religious observances; and

WHEREAS, Today, Temple Sinai offers a wide variety of programs and activities, including religious education, youth programs, Hebrew language instruction, and many other committees and clubs which offers an array of opportunities for the community; and

WHEREAS, Committed to helping those in need, Temple Sinai runs Slice of Heaven Breads, a non-profit bakery operated from the synagogue's kitchen which helps those less fortunate; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Temple Sinai's young members are encouraged to donate their time and energies to such charities as Shelters of Saratoga, the Franklin Community Center, and local hospices; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Rabbis Linda Motzkin and Jonathan Rubenstein since 1986, Temple Sinai stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve of its founders; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Temple Sinai of Saratoga Springs, New York, fully confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rabbis Linda Motzkin and Jonathan Rubenstein, Temple Sinai, Saratoga Springs, New York.