

## 2015-J705

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Bob Williams upon the occasion of being selected as the 2015 Grand Marshal of the 19th Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade on March 21, 2015

WHEREAS, Saint Patrick's Day is a time for people of all nationalities and generations to assemble and celebrate the rich culture and heritage of the Irish people throughout these United States; and

WHEREAS, A Saint Patrick's parade reflects and records the ongoing history of the United States and Ireland and highlights the many contributions and historical accomplishments of the Irish community in this diverse land; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Bob Williams upon the occasion of his selection as the 2015 Grand Marshal of the 19th Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade on Saturday, March 21, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Rockville Centre's St. Patrick's Parade was established on March 22, 1997 and remains dedicated to promoting Irish heritage and culture, family and patriotic values; to promoting and annually financially supporting a national, an Irish, and a Rockville Centre focused charity; and to contributing to the good and welfare of the residents and businesses of Rockville Centre; and

WHEREAS, Long-time Attorney Bob Williams is a lifelong resident of Rockville Centre; he attended both St. Agnes Cathedral School in Rockville Centre, New York, and Chaminade High School in Mineola, New York, and graduated from Boston College before attending St. Johns University School of Law; in 1967, he was admitted to the New York State Bar; and

WHEREAS, After Law School, Bob Williams served his country as a member of the United States Army, where he was awarded the prestigious Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service; and

WHEREAS, Upon his retirement from the military, Bob Williams began his legal career as an Attorney with the Town of Hempstead; in 1986, he opened a law practice in Rockville Centre, where he today continues to assist his community; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his successful law practice, Bob Williams served as a Rockville Centre Village Justice for 16 years; during his tenure in this capacity, he was elected to the esteemed positions of President of the Nassau County Magistrates Association, and Chairman of the Real Property Committee of the Nassau County Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Bob Williams is a past President of the Nassau University Medical Center and has acted as a member of the Mercy Medical Center Board of Trustees, the Friends of Mercy Hospital, and the St. Agnes School Board; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Bob Williams served as Counsel to the Rockville Centre Board of Zoning Appeals and currently, is a member of the Board of Ethics for both the Village and the Rockville Centre School District; he also found time to coach both Little League and soccer; and

WHEREAS, Bob Williams has been an integral part of the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Day Parade for numerous years; he was a member of the initial organization committee and incorporated it as a New York State non-profit corporation in 1997, and for many years thereafter, he served on the Parade Committee as its Legal Counsel; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of over 40 years, Pat, and their three children, Rob (Beth), Megan (Scott), and Jay (Stephanie), as well as the loving grandparents of four grandchildren, Cate, Charlie, Emma, and Kelly, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Each year as we honor St. Patrick, whose life mirrored a deep and abiding example of the challenges of sainthood, we are mindful of the history of the Irish people and their struggle against oppression, religious intolerance and political, social and economic barriers; and

WHEREAS, A St. Patrick's Day Parade celebrates the spirit, purity and strength of the Irish culture and its fine traditions and provides an opportunity for people of all generations to assemble in ethnic pride and pageantry; and

WHEREAS, A fitting choice to serve as Grand Marshal of the 2015 Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade, Bob Williams embodies the spirit and the cherished ideals and values of Irish-Americans of this great State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Bob Williams upon the occasion of being selected as the 2015 Grand Marshal of the 19th Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade on March 21, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Grand Marshal Bob Williams.