

2015-J790

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring John R. Dunne upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Inaugural Champion of Justice Award by Prisoners' Legal Services of New York

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those patriotic and civic-minded community members who dedicate their lives and careers to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor John R. Dunne upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Inaugural Champion of Justice Award by Prisoners' Legal Services of New York; this momentous occasion was celebrated at its 40th Anniversary Party on Friday, October 24, 2014, at Albany Law School, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, A 1951 graduate of Georgetown University, John R. Dunne went on to earn his Law degree from Yale Law School in 1954; and

WHEREAS, Prior to joining Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna as Senior Counsel to the Firm, John R. Dunne served for 30 years in numerous federal, state and local government positions; from 1990 to 1993 he was the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the United States Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, For 24 years, John R. Dunne was a member of the New York State Senate during which time he served in various roles including, Deputy Majority Leader and Chair of the judiciary, environmental protection, insurance and prisons committees; and

WHEREAS, Then Senator John R. Dunne was a major figure in attempting to quell the Attica Prison riots because he was then Chairman of the Senate Corrections Committee which oversaw the prison system; and

WHEREAS, John R. Dunne chaired the Board of Directors of The New York State Office of Capital Defender and is a member of the Board of Direc-

tors of the State Office of Indigent Law Services which monitors, studies, and makes efforts to improve the quality of legal services provided to indigent criminal defendants; and

WHEREAS, A Founding Director of Prisoners' Legal Services of New York, John R. Dunne remains an active member of its Board where he has worked hard to ensure the provision of high quality, effective legal representation, as well as assistance to indigent prisoners to help them secure their civil and human rights; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor John R. Dunne upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Inaugural Champion of Justice Award by Prisoners' Legal Services of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John R. Dunne.