

## 2015-K274

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year Award by the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the achievements of individuals, organizations, and businesses which contribute substantially to the economic health and vitality of the communities of the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year Award by the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its annual business dinner, at The Best Western Inn, Cobleskill, New York, on Friday, March 27, 2015; and

WHEREAS, The Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to the cooperative efforts of the business and residential communities in preserving the quality, character, and vitality of businesses in the County of Schoharie and each year proudly honors those in the community, such as KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery, which helps to further these goals; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Lori and Ken Wortz established KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery in Charlotteville, New York; and

WHEREAS, KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery is a farm winery and distillery which produces wines and spirits made exclusively from New York State grown crops; all of their product's principal ingredients are either produced by them, or by other New York farmers in the region; and

WHEREAS, KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery proudly partners with these growers to bring produce right from the field to the glass; in addition,

each batch is fermented, distilled, aged, blended, and bottled at the farm; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery and their partners transitioned from part-time to full-time operations, after remodeling a vacant 20,000 square foot facility in Charlottesville; and

WHEREAS, The expansion allowed the business to conduct tastings and tours, and significantly increase their production; KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery also increased their sales market throughout upstate New York, and hired their first permanent employee; and

WHEREAS, Today, KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery continues to prosper; in addition to hiring two new employees, they have collaborated with a downstate distributor; and

WHEREAS, KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery has also expanded its sales markets in both Massachusetts and Connecticut, and has released several new products, including KyMar Farm Wines; and

WHEREAS, Ken Wortz earned a degree in economics from Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut; prior to serving as the chief operating officer of a business unit of British Telecom in Manhattan, he provided technical IT solutions at Global Financial Institutions; and

WHEREAS, In July of 2014, Ken Wortz started to work full-time at KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery; he currently serves as manager responsible for all merchandise brought to the market, lead winemaker and distiller; and

WHEREAS, Lori Wortz graduated from Fairfield University with a degree in business management; she is responsible for the business' licensing, accounting, marketing, and regulatory requirements; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Lori Wortz holds the position of chair of the Agriculture Business Committee of the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery's success, recognizes its

contributions to the local and State economies, and extends its highest commendation to the corporation and its employees, fully confident that, in its future, it will enjoy the same sparkling success which has so characterized its past; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2015 Business of the Year Award by the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lori and Ken Wortz, owners, KyMar Farm Winery and Distillery.