

## 2015-J1422

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Raymond J. Durso, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Business Advocate Award by the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Raymond J. Durso, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Business Advocate Award by the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its 47th Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at Francesca's Banquet Facility, Ilion, New York; and

WHEREAS, A native of the Mohawk Valley region, Raymond J. Durso, Jr. was born in Herkimer, and raised in Utica, New York; and

WHEREAS, Today, Raymond J. Durso, Jr. is the Executive Director of The Genesis Group of the Mohawk Valley Region; he has been involved in this civic organization since its inception in 2000, serving as a Board Member before being promoted to Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, Now in its 15th year, The Genesis Group serves diligently to unite business and community leaders working to advance regional economic, social, and culture interests, and to foster unity and cooperation in the Mohawk Valley region; and

WHEREAS, Raymond J. Durso, Jr. is responsible for the day to day operation of the Genesis organization; he relishes working with many dedicated individuals who give their time and energies to help create a

better community; he also works side by side with community leaders and professionals in education including all area colleges, as well as healthcare, tourism, economic development, and various other quality of life projects; and

WHEREAS, Active in his community as well as his profession, Raymond J. Durso, Jr. has served on the Board of Directors for the Greater Utica Chamber of Commerce, and the Utica Zoological Society; currently, he serves as President of the Chamber Alliance of the Mohawk Valley; and WHEREAS, Previously, Raymond J. Durso, Jr. served as an on-air consultant for WKTV, a columnist for the Observer-Dispatch, and an on-air radio host for WIBX; and

WHEREAS, Raymond J. Durso, Jr. was the recipient of the 40 Under 40 Award by the Mohawk Valley Business Journal, and was featured in an article entitled "Meet Mr. Positive"; he also was recognized as a "Home-town Hero" by WUTR TV; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Diana, and their three children, Gennaro, Gianna, and Alexa, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations 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; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Raymond J. Durso, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation as

recipient of the 2015 Business Advocate Award by the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Raymond J. Durso, Jr.