

2015-J1484

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Gerald D. Jennings upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Third Age Achievement Award in Government by Senior Services of Albany

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 Gerald D. Jennings upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Third Age Achievement Award in Government by Senior Services of Albany, to be celebrated at its 19th Annual Third Age Achievement Awards Luncheon on Friday, May 8, 2015, at Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, this auspicious event recognizes the contributions that area residents and professionals have made in their communities during the Third Age of their lives; Gerald D. Jennings will receive this award for his valuable achievements and devoted public service to his community after the age of 60; and

WHEREAS, Born in North Albany, New York, Gerald D. Jennings, affectionately known as Jerry, graduated from SUNY Brockport, and earned a Master of Science degree from the University at Albany in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduating from college, Jerry D. Jennings began his illustrious 21 year career as a prevalent teacher and high school administrator for the Albany City School District; and

WHEREAS, For 13 years, Jerry D. Jennings served on the Albany Common Council representing the 11th Ward, where he distinguished himself as a tireless voice for the citizens of Albany, and an advocate for Albany's Pine Bush; and

WHEREAS, In 1993, Jerry D. Jennings was elected the 74th Mayor of Albany, a position he held for five terms; and

WHEREAS, Jerry D. Jennings first took office as Mayor in January of 1994, assuming the responsibilities of leadership which turned the City of Albany into a true renaissance; and

WHEREAS, During his distinguished public service in this esteemed position, Jerry D. Jennings presided over an unprecedented reduction in crime and meaningful increases in quality of life for all residents of Albany; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Jerry D. Jennings implemented a comprehensive redevelopment of Albany's beautiful waterfront and the Corning Preserve; the construction of the Hudson River Way Pedestrian Bridge links downtown Albany with the Hudson River and new Amphitheater at Albany Riverfront Park; and

WHEREAS, One of the many accomplishments Jerry D. Jennings was instrumental in aiding included a collaboration with the State of New York and the Pine Bush Commission to add hundreds of acres to the Pine Bush Preserve; he also dedicated a significant amount of funds toward the improvement of parks, playgrounds, and nature preserves within the City of Albany; and

WHEREAS, Jerry D. Jennings has received numerous awards and accolades for his visionary and progressive leadership including the prestigious City Livability Award by the United States Conference of Mayors, and the Public/Private Partnership Outstanding Achievement Award for his collaborative partnerships with the business community; and

WHEREAS, Our local governments, our State and our Nation have been strengthened by generations of Americans who felt a sense of responsibility to their community, to one another and to their families; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife, Mary Ann; together, they enjoy spending quality time with their three grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his

achievements; and

WHEREAS, A singular asset to all of the citizens he has served in the community of the State of New York, Jerry D. Jennings's life and career are a portrait of preeminence in public service, and present a role model for all who aspire to a career in public service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Gerald D. Jennings upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2015 Third Age Achievement Award in Government by Senior Services of Albany; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Gerald D. Jennings.