

2015-J1665

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Cantor Rich Pilatsky upon the occasion of his induction into North Shore Synagogue's Hall of Fame on May 16, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the efforts of those individuals within the State of New York who give of their time and energies in support of spiritual endeavors which aim to benefit the community-at-large; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Cantor Rich Pilatsky upon the occasion of his induction into North Shore Synagogue's Hall of Fame, to be celebrated at a ceremony held in his honor on Saturday, May 16, 2015, at the North Shore Synagogue, Syosset, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised on Long Island, New York, Rich Pilatsky attended Freeport High School where he was very active in the musical program; he then went on to earn his degree from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduating from college, Rich Pilatsky began his professional career teaching music, both instrumental and vocal, at P.S. 69 in Jackson Heights, New York; following the death of his father, he left teaching to run the family business; and

WHEREAS, At this time, Rich Pilatsky became an active member of his temple, Congregation B'nai Israel, Freeport, New York; he served eight years in various Vice-Presidential positions before attaining the title of Chairman of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, Rich Pilatsky became interested in becoming a Cantor; subsequently he entered the Academy for Jewish Religion, Yonkers, New York; in 1989, he was appointed Cantor of Congregation B'nai

Israel, in this capacity he assisted in training the b'nai mitzvah students; and

WHEREAS, Seven years later, Rich Pilatsky held the title of Cantor at Congregation Mt. Sinai in Brooklyn Heights, New York; he then went on to serve as Cantor at Temple Beth Elohim in Old Bethpage, New York, a role he held for 14 years; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, Temple Beth Elohim merged with North Shore Synagogue; today, Rich Pilatsky continues to serve as Cantor; and

WHEREAS, Cantor Rich Pilatsky furthered his religious education by graduating from the Jewish Family Educators Training Institute at Suffolk Association for Jewish Educational Services; and

WHEREAS, An avid musician and composer, Cantor Rich Pilatsky has lectured and given several seminars focusing on Jewish music; in addition, he has composed many musical works, such as a Chassidic Friday Evening Service and a Wedding Service as well as many solo pieces for the Friday evening service; and

WHEREAS, Cantor Rich Pilatsky serves as President of the Long Island Cantors Association, and Musical Director of the Long Island Cantors Ensemble; in addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Lend A Hand Project; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, including recognition by Lend A Hand Project, Hadassah, the Long Island Jewish War Veterans, as well as other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Cantor Sandy Sherry, his son, Chad (Kristin), and three step-sons, Adam, David (Laura), and Jason (Melissa), as well as their seven grandchildren, Matthew, Tyler,

Brooke, Benjamin, Layla, Alden and Deborah, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its rich historical past and up to the present day, the North Shore Synagogue has been sustained by the beneficent

efforts of countless congregants such as Cantor Rich Pilatsky, who have generously supported their temple with abundant kindness and good deeds; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Cantor Rich Pilatsky upon the occasion of his induction into North Shore Synagogue's Hall of Fame on May 16, 2015; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Cantor Rich Pilatsky.