

2015-K528

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Carmine Ruberto upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 50 years of distinguished service to the New York State Department of Labor

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Since 1964, Carmine Ruberto has served New York Workers through his work with labor organizations, worker protection and enforcement, and as a lobbyist, as well as an advocate; and

WHEREAS, In 1965, Carmine Ruberto began his career as an employee of the New York State Division of Labor Standards serving as a Field Investigator; throughout the next 13 years, he held various administrative positions including Division Chief; and

WHEREAS, Carmine Ruberto then went to work for the Service Employees International Union, and served as a Board member of the Worker's Compensation Board for two years; he then returned to the Division of Labor Standards; and

WHEREAS, Upon his return to the Division of Labor Standards, Carmine Ruberto quickly rose through the ranks, attaining the title of Director in 2007; since then, the department has more than doubled funds recovered for workers, reaching a benchmark total of 30 million dollars in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Carmine Ruberto also served as Secretary to the Commissioner of Labor on Wage Boards; in this capacity, he established and improved the Minimum Wage regulations; and

WHEREAS, Carmine Ruberto was called upon to serve as the Labor Representative for the Governor's Healthcare Advisory Committee, as well as a member of the Excelsior Committee for Quality in Government, a precursor

to modern LEAN initiatives; and

WHEREAS, As a school board member during the 1990s, Carmine Ruberto was instrumental in implementing a ban on schools using apparel manufactured in sweatshops; in the role of Director of the Division of Labor Standards, he expanded upon the work of the Apparel Industry Task Force and executed task force-style enforcement sweeps in other industries through the State; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, for more than five decades, Carmine Ruberto has been a steadfast enforcer of New York's wage and hour laws; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as Director, Carmine Ruberto served with loyalty, honor and distinction; he was influential in developing a modern, agile, responsive, and proactive department, which will continue to perform its fundamental mission, ensuring workers receive wages owed for their work performed; and

WHEREAS, For more than 50 years, Carmine Ruberto had rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service to the New York State Department of Labor, and was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure with the New York State Department of Labor, Carmine Ruberto earned the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Carmine Ruberto upon the occasion of his retirement after more

than 50 years of distinguished service to the New York State Department of Labor, and to wish him the best in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Carmine Ruberto.