

2015-J2221

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of James R. Hillery, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, James R. Hillery of Buffalo, New York, died on April 16, 2015, at the age of 81; and

WHEREAS, A native of South Buffalo, James R. Hillery was a member of the first graduating class at Bishop Timon High School; he then went on to attend St. Bonaventure University; and

WHEREAS, James R. Hillery distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated physical education teacher for over three decades, James R. Hillery also coached baseball, basketball, and hockey at various stages of his career; and

WHEREAS, James R. Hillery's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, A former athlete and avid sports fan, James R. Hillery was a basketball official for 35 years and the starter at Cazenovia Golf Course for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, In addition, James R. Hillery managed the scholarship named after his father, ran an annual golf tournament, and held sneaker drives for children in need; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his parents, Judge John D. and Eva Prentis Hillery; and three siblings, Jane, John D. Jr., and Barbara, James R.

Hillery is survived by his loving wife, Kathleen; nine children, James (Peggy), Joseph (Ann), John (Denise), Mary Beth, Margaret (Michael), Mark (Elaine), Michael (Kelly), David (Katie) and Karen (James); 31 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild, as well as his sister, Mary; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, James R. Hillery leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of James R. Hillery, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of James R. Hillery.