

## 2015-J2471

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Dr. Tom Catena upon the occasion of being named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People for 2015

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those medical professionals within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary doctors it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Dr. Tom Catena upon the occasion of being named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People for 2015; and

WHEREAS, A native of Amsterdam, New York, Tom Catena earned his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering, before proudly serving in the United States Navy, where he received medical training; and

WHEREAS, For more than 15 years, Dr. Tom Catena has provided his expert medical care to people in Africa, beginning his career of service in northern Kenya; and

WHEREAS, After learning of a hospital being built in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan, Dr. Tom Catena accepted a position to work at Mother of Mercy Hospital, drawn by both the challenge and his desire to serve an area in need; and

WHEREAS, For the past eight years, Dr. Tom Catena has worked in a country in which humanitarian organizations are not allowed, providing his services in the rebel-held territory in which the hospital is located; and

WHEREAS, Today, this remarkable man is the only doctor in the 435-bed hospital, working with a staff of about 60 people, with only a handful having had formal schooling; and

WHEREAS, The sole surgeon in a region the size of the state of Georgia, serving 750,000 to a million people, Dr. Tom Catena works tirelessly to treat people with such major medical issues as malaria, tuberculosis, pneumonia and leprosy, as well as serious injuries from land mines; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Dr. Tom Catena has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when medical professionals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. Tom Catena upon the occasion of being named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People for 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Tom Catena.