

2015-J2304

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending John Regan upon the occasion of his designation as the 2015 Italian American of the Year by the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those individuals of true purpose and worthy accomplishment who foster ethnic pride and strive to preserve their cultural heritage, thereby enhancing the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of community throughout this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend John Regan upon the occasion of his designation as the 2015 Italian American of the Year by the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators to be celebrated on June 8, 2015, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, John Regan, also known as Della Chiesa, is an American musician, songwriter, producer and bassist; his paternal Nonno, Bartolomeo Della Chiesa, was a native of the small town of Leni, on Isola Salina off the coast of Sicily, and emigrated to America in the 1890s; and

WHEREAS, One of the greatest Rock and Roll bass guitar players in America, John Regan has recorded and performed with Peter Frampton since 1979; he has also recorded music with The Rolling Stones, Billy Idol, and David Lee Roth, and performed on the famous single version of "Dancing in the Streets" with David Bowie and Mick Jagger; and

WHEREAS, A resident of the Village of Wappingers Falls, New York, this esteemed artist has proudly served his community as both a member and Chairman of the Parks Commission for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, In addition, John Regan has served as a founding Trustee of the Dr. Edwin A. Ulrich Charitable Trust which has raised significant

funds for scholarships to Marist College, and SUNY New Paltz students pursuing Business, Music and Art degrees; and

WHEREAS, Today, John Regan still tours the world and records music; he recently returned from a 30 city tour of the UK with the legendary Billy J. Kramer; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, John Regan is the host of "Cafe Italia," a one-hour show which is broadcast in New York's Hudson Valley, celebrating the Italian culture through music and inspiring listeners to recall fond memories growing up in an Italian household; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, John Regan achieved a lifelong dream of obtaining his Italian citizenship; he is looking forward to spending a good deal of quality time in Italy with his wife of more than 40 years, Cathy; and

WHEREAS, John Regan has truly distinguished himself through his wonderful career and service to others, and, subsequently, the Italian-American community and all of New York State has profited greatly from his talent and dedication; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals 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 John Regan upon the occasion of his designation as the 2015 Italian American of the Year by the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John Regan.