

2015-J2694

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education on November 15, 2015

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in New York State is greatly enriched by its religious organizations and the faithful and generous service of those who devote themselves to endeavors of family, faith, and community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend organizations of such magnanimous conduct and bearing which demonstrate a deep and continuing concern for others, and in so doing, inspire others to do the same; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education, to be celebrated on Sunday, November 15, 2015, at Pier 60, Manhattan, New York; and

WHEREAS, The National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education (NCFJE) is a multi-faceted charity which protects, feeds and educates thousands of individuals throughout the New York metro area and around the Nation; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1940 by Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok Schneerson, NCFJE is one of the first Chabad-Lubavitch charities established in the United States; the principal mission of this vital organization is to provide Jewish public school students with a free Jewish education through the Jewish Released Time program; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after the founding of NCFJE, Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht was appointed to lead the organization and charged with expanding the range and intensity of its programs; many of the Released Time children came

from households which experienced a range of economic and social hardships; subsequently, during this time, the NCFJE implemented numerous educational and humanitarian services; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the decades, NCFJE has been instrumental in the rescue of nearly 1,000 Jewish children from Iran, the founding of the Colony of Hope in Israel, and the implementation of counseling and hotline services in the wake of the Crown Heights Riots and the Brooklyn Bridge Shootings; and

WHEREAS, Today, under the luminous direction of Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht, NCFJE continues to provide fast, discreet and dignified service to all sectors of the Jewish community through such programs as: Toys for Hospitalized Children; Hadar Hatorah Rabbinical Seminary; Ivy League Torah Study Program; Orphan, Poor and Sick Fund; Camp Emunah; Machne Yisrael Day Camp; and Chai Tots; and

WHEREAS, Religious organizations, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, The success of the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education is in direct correlation to the efforts of its staff and volunteers, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our atten-

tion, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education on November 15, 2015; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht, the National Committee for Furtherance of Jewish Education.