

2015-K652

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Johnny Yap upon the occasion of his selection as 2015 New York City Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Johnny Yap upon the occasion of his selection as 2015 New York City Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging at its Annual Senior Citizens Day Celebration on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at the Hart Theatre Lounge in the Egg, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each May, the New York State Office for the Aging pauses to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by older citizens during National Older Americans Month; and

WHEREAS, Members of older generations have helped build and shape our Nation to be the greatest in the world; they have defended our freedoms and values to ensure that those who come after them may have better lives; nowhere in the Nation is the legacy of their efforts more visible and more a part of the lives of all citizens than here in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, 40 years ago, Johnny Yap migrated to New York City from Malaysia with his wife and son; in Malaysia, he held the position of both Accountant and Accounts Manager for an engineering company; and

WHEREAS, After moving to the Lower East Side in New York City, Johnny Yap was employed as a Driver for Key Foods Warehouse for more than 25 years, a position he held until he officially retired in 2001; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman has been called upon to contribute

his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, A committed volunteer for six years, Johnny Yap joined University Settlement Senior Center and became one of its most active participants; his enthusiasm and dynamic personality aided his integration into a multi-cultural community of seniors; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Yap has been able to transcend cultural barriers and has the fluidity to communicate with various ethnic groups; he has held many leadership positions within the Center, including President of the Senior Advisory Council, Wellness Instructor, Front Desk Volunteer, and a Translator; in these capacities, he stays informed of issues facing seniors, and advocates for needed changes on their behalf; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Johnny Yap has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

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

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife and his son, both of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Yap, a very active and industrious man, has inspired and enriched the lives of those he serves through his volunteerism, generously sharing the wisdom gained over years of experiencing life to its fullest; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Johnny Yap upon the occasion of being selected as the 2015 New

York City Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Johnny Yap.