



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

## Senator O'Mara pays tribute to Watkins Glen International

THOMAS F. O'MARA March 18, 2014



**Albany, N.Y., March 18**—State Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C-Big Flats) paid tribute on the floor of the Senate today to the 65th Anniversary of Watkins Glen International and its contributions to the culture and economy of the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions, and all of New York State.

"It's a great privilege for me to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of the world's iconic sporting venues. Across the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions, we all take great pride in the fact that 'The Glen' has resonated so powerfully throughout the history of American motorsports for more than six decades," said O'Mara (R,C-Big Flats), sponsor of a Senate resolution recognizing the 65th Anniversary of Watkins Glen International. "Watkins Glen International has long stood in my legislative district as a mainstay of our regional culture and economy. It's one of New York State's premier destinations, a backbone of our

leading tourism industry, and a driving force for countless charitable, community service and economic development initiatives. Very simply, we're fortunate to call Watkins Glen International one of our own."

[\[watch Senator O'Mara's speech on the floor of the Senate today\]](#)

Top Watkins Glen International officials, including President Michael Printup, are in Albany this week to help open a New York State Motorsports Exhibit in the Empire State Plaza and kick off "Motorsports Appreciation Week."

O'Mara recognized Printup, Watkins Glen International Vice President Jon Beckman and Director of Marketing & Promotions Andrew Smith and from the floor of the Senate during the Senate's regular session.

O'Mara's resolution celebrating Watkins Glen International's 65th Anniversary was also read.

The resolution (S.R.3934) states, in part, "As a world-renowned premier racing venue, Watkins Glen International brings over \$200 million in annual economic activity to the Southern Finger Lakes region, including the creation of thousands of jobs from track operation and maintenance on site, to lodging, dining, shopping and entertainment spending by its fans...Throughout its 65 year history, Watkins Glen International has embodied more than giant crowds and great speed; the racing community continues to return year after year to witness its historic moments and unique charms that have made this place one of the premier motorsports facilities in the world."

[In the photo above, from left to right: Watkins Glen International President Michael Printup, Senator O'Mara, Jordan Taylor and Ricky Taylor]