

2015-J4094

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Brooks' House of BBQ upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2016 America's Classics Award by the James Beard Foundation on May 2, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize illustrious culinary establishments which have positively impacted and substantially contributed to the vitality of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Brooks' House of BBQ upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2016 America's Classics Award by the James Beard Foundation to be celebrated at its 26th Annual Awards Ceremony on Monday, May 2, 2016, at the Lyric Opera, Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious award is bestowed upon locally owned restaurants that have been in existence for at least ten years, exude a timeless appeal, and serve quality food that reflects the character of its communities; Brooks' House of BBQ has played a role in bringing its community together, representing the heart and soul of our national culinary landscape; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1986, the James Beard Foundation celebrates, nurtures, and honors America's diverse culinary heritage through programs which educate and inspire; and

WHEREAS, A cookbook author and teacher with a vast knowledge about food, the late James Beard was a true connoisseur; Brooks' House of BBQ represents the kind of restaurant that this food enthusiast loved, a classic institution which truly represents American food; and

WHEREAS, In 1912, John McClelland and his wife founded a chicken farm in Stamford, New York; in 1951, a catering business was established, followed by a drive-in; ten years later, Brooks' House of BBQ restaurant

opened in Oneonta, New York, with seating for 80 guests and a staff of about 15 employees; and

WHEREAS, For over 50 years, thousands of the restaurant's loyal customers have enjoyed chicken that has been cooked the same way, over a 38-foot indoor charcoal pit that creates blistered skin and a backyard flavor that goes bone deep; through the years, their proven tried and true formula has not lost its appeal; and

WHEREAS, Besides their world famous chicken, Brooks' House of BBQ offers many other classic good home cooking meals including ribs, pulled pork, and brisket; in addition, the eatery offers a salad bar that comes with its delicious coleslaw, fresh from the oven bread, tempting desserts, and a spiced apple ring, dyed deep garnet, which tops each bird; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Ryan and Beth Brooks manage the popular restaurant beloved by both local residents and tourists enjoying the beautiful Leatherstocking and Catskill Mountain region; and

WHEREAS, Visitors from far and near enjoy the hominess of the restaurant with its rust-and-toffee colored interior which features rooster-print wallpaper, a scalloped lunch counter, and state-themed paper placemats that detail the entirety of the Brooks' BBQ Campus; and

WHEREAS, The Brooks BBQ complex is comprised of a banquet center, gift store, children's park, picnic area, and a sauce bottling plant, making it a perfect place for families to spend quality time together; and

WHEREAS, The sparkling success enjoyed by Brooks' House of BBQ is in direct correlation to the efforts of its 95 employees who make each and every customer feel like he or she is eating a home cooked meal; and

WHEREAS, For over five decades, the third generation owners and employees of Brooks' House of BBQ have brought an uncommon sense of

quality and spirit to the community, providing Oneonta and the Catskill-Leatherstocking region not only with good food, but also with good old-fashioned memories to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this Legislative Body recognize local businesses such as Brooks' House of BBQ which have become institutions in the community, as well as the successful entrepreneurs who have nurtured them throughout the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Brooks' House of BBQ upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2016 America's Classics Award by the James Beard Foundation, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the same sparkling success and indomitable spirit which has so characterized its past; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ryan and Beth Brooks, owners, Brooks' House of BBQ.