

## 2015-J4408

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Dr. W. Hubert Keen upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Farmingdale State College Alumni Association on March 31, 2016

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Dr. W. Hubert Keen upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Farmingdale State College Alumni Association on March 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, W. Hubert Keen earned his Bachelor's degree in Biology from Pikeville College, and his Master's degree in Physiological Ecology from Eastern Kentucky University; he furthered his education by obtaining his PhD in Ecology from Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Since January of 2007, Dr. W. Hubert Keen has held the esteemed title of President of Farmingdale State College, a position from which he will retire in June of 2016; prior to obtaining this rank, he served the college for two years as both Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure, Dr. W. Hubert Keen has been instrumental in leading the College's unprecedented success in pioneering research, economic development, and community involvement, as well as enrollment, growing to almost 8,600 students; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the campus has embarked on a \$185 million construction and renovation project, academic programs have been expanded, and new buildings have been built including a Campus Center, Children's Center, and School of Business; and

WHEREAS, Under his luminous leadership, Farmingdale State College is a major academic research partner with the Advanced Energy Center at Stony Brook University; a report by the Long Island Association estimated Farmingdale's economic impact on the region to be over \$1 billion, in terms of employment, education, partnerships with industry, and development of the regional workforce; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Small Business Development Center at Farmingdale State College is one of the most active in the state, having administered to more than 29,000 clients since its inception while creating \$382 million in business investments and more than 11,000 jobs throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Dr. W. Hubert Keen serves on several Boards of Directors for organizations such as the Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center, the Long Island Regional Planning Council, and the LI Index Advisory Board; he also chaired the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education Presidents-Superintendents Group and served as LIRACHE Chair; and

WHEREAS, For his steadfast and unremitting commitment to Farmingdale State College, Dr. W. Hubert Keen was the recipient of the 2009 Education Advocate by the LTA's Small Business Council, and was named one of Long Island's most influential leaders by the Long Island Press; he was also honored by Networking magazine for his commitment to community and civic organizations, and was awarded numerous fellowships, including the Fulbright; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Dr. W. Hubert Keen provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in

their future years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. W. Hubert Keen has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of Farmingdale State College, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Dr. W. Hubert Keen has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. W. Hubert Keen upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Farmingdale State College Alumni Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. W. Hubert Keen.