

2015-J4625

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Jill Peckenpaugh upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Philanthropy Award by the Turkish Cultural Center Albany

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the causes of peace and understanding, building bridges between cultures for the benefit of us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Jill Peckenpaugh upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Philanthropy Award by the Turkish Cultural Center Albany to be celebrated at its 5th Annual Friendship Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at Wolferts Roost Country Club in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Turkish Cultural Center Albany (TCCA) is a non-profit organization devoted to promoting peace and understanding among people from diverse cultural backgrounds in New York's Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, The TCCA's 5th Annual Friendship Dinner and Award Ceremony is an expression of unity with an ultimate goal of building bridges of understanding, peace and harmony among diverse communities; it also recognizes individuals and organizations for making differences in their communities by promoting social cohesion; and

WHEREAS, Jill Peckenpaugh is receiving the TCCA Philanthropy Award in recognition of her outstanding work in helping refugee populations resettle in New York's Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, Jill Peckenpaugh holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a graduate degree in Training and Development from Lesley University; and

WHEREAS, With over 20 years of experience in organizational develop-

ment, this esteemed woman has specialized in multicultural populations throughout her career in both the for-profit and non-profit sectors; and WHEREAS, Prior to joining the United States Committee on Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), Jill Peckenpaugh served as the Director of Program Management at Cross-Cultural Solutions, an international non-profit volunteer organization; she also held positions in marketing and communications in the international department at John Hancock Financial Services; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, Jill Peckenpaugh joined USCRI as the Director of the Albany Field Office where she has overseen numerous programs including Refugee Resettlement, Employment Services, Immigration Services and the Office for New Americans; and

WHEREAS, Jill Peckenpaugh's tireless efforts have been vital in helping USCRI resettle over 400 refugees annually from such places as Afghanistan, Burma, Iraq, and various African nations; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Jill Peckenpaugh 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 Jill Peckenpaugh has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Jill Peckenpaugh upon the occasion of her designation as recipi-

ent of the 2016 Philanthropy Award by the Turkish Cultural Center Albany; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jill Peckenpaugh.