

2015-J4746

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Phillip A. Saperia upon the occasion of his retirement from the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc.

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Phillip A. Saperia upon the occasion of his retirement from the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, For the past 21 years, Phillip A. Saperia rendered faithful, conscientious and valuable service as Executive Director of the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc., earning the admiration, esteem and affection of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as Executive Director, Phillip A. Saperia served with loyalty, honor and distinction; he was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems in his official acts; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1972, the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc., is the umbrella advocacy organization of New York's behavioral health community, representing over 100 non-profit community-based behavioral health agencies that serve more than 350,000 clients in the five boroughs of New York City and its environs; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Brandeis University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics, Phillip A. Saperia holds a Master of Arts in Teaching from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education where he was elected to Phi Delta Kappa, the National Honorary Education Society; and

WHEREAS, In October of 1994, Phillip A. Saperia began serving as Exec-

utive Director of the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc., where he has overseen its program of education advocacy and technical assistance to the diverse community-based behavioral health providers of New York City; and

WHEREAS, Since his arrival at the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc., Phillip A. Saperia has been immersed in mental health public policy, government support of community mental health, the evolution of public managed care programs for people living with mental illness and the emerging area of employment for people with psychiatric disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Phillip A. Saperia has been in the fields of community and government relations for many years; prior to coming to the New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc., he was a consultant to several not-for-profit agencies on matters related to community siting of special care housing and on the development of local community advisory boards as well as serving as Director of the Mayor's Office of Jewish Community Affairs during the administration of David Dinkins; and

WHEREAS, Phillip A. Saperia 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, Active in community organizations, Phillip A. Saperia has been involved in the brownstone neighborhoods of Brooklyn, New York; 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 the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Phillip A. Saperia upon the occasion of his retirement from the

New York State Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Phillip A. Saperia.