

## 2015-J4758

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Regina McGuire upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Youth Award by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, to honor the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Regina McGuire has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special recognition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Regina McGuire upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Youth Award by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce to be celebrated at the 31st Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, April 8, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1957, the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce works on a local and regional level to advance economic development and foster a positive business environment; it offers resources for residents, business, recreation and relocation in Bethlehem and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, A Senior at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk (RCS) High School, Regina McGuire was diagnosed with severe Aplastic Anemia at the young age of six years old; and

WHEREAS, Aplastic Anemia causes the body to stop producing sufficient new blood cells, and for 11 years, Regina McGuire relied on the generous blood donations of others; as a result, she remains involved with the Red Cross, acting as a Red Cross Blood Donation Ambassador, and participating in public service videos for WNYT Television, WGNA Radio and for Albany Medical Center's Radiothon Fundraiser in order to educate the

public on the importance of blood donations and encourage them to help those in need; and

WHEREAS, In 2005, Regina McGuire was selected as the poster child for The Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore, Maryland, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and through her efforts, has been active in calling attention to the services this non-profit provides to individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, Designated as an Angel Representative for the Make-A-Wish Christmas Fundraiser, Regina McGuire's wish is to continue her passion of performing with the Empire State Youth Orchestra's String Ensemble and Reperatory Orchestra while playing an adult violin; and

WHEREAS, Regina McGuire has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Regina McGuire gives back to her community by participating in ESYO Play-A-Thon fundraisers, and has volunteered at the New York State School Music Association Festival when it was at RCS High School; she is a member of the RCS High School chorus and has sung at the Empire State Plaza holiday performances as well as performed with the RCS Harmonics at the Albany Pro Musica Choral Festival at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed young woman also finds time to be a Youth Circle Member of the Transplant Recipient International Organization, where she helps support young transplant candidates, recipients, donors and their families; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her service work, Regina McGuire is a member of the National Honor Society and is in the top 10 percent of her class despite her health challenges; she has been accepted early as a Biology

major by four colleges and is interested in pursuing a career in immunology or virology research and is strongly considering specializing in microbiology and the study of cells; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Regina McGuire has displayed through her tireless advocacy, positivity, perseverance and selflessness; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, this young woman now stands honorably, with just pride in her achievements and in eager anticipation of future challenges; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body would like to wish Regina McGuire continued success throughout her school years and beyond; 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 honor Regina McGuire upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2016 Youth Award by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Regina McGuire.