

## 2015-J5152

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Schenectady County Bar Association

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across the great State of New York is reflective of certain exemplary institutions whose purpose is dedicated to serving the community and the needs of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Schenectady County Bar Association, to be celebrated at Key Hall at Proctors on Wednesday, May 18, 2016; The Honorable Leslie Stein, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, will be the featured keynote speaker; this esteemed event will also include special guest David Miranda, Esq., President of the New York State Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, The Schenectady County Bar Association (SCBA) is an association of lawyers, mindful of their unique role in the relationship between the community and the law; the Association strives to facilitate the administration of justice, elevate the standards of integrity, honor and courtesy in the legal profession, promote the interests and welfare of the profession, particularly of the practicing lawyer, and cherish the spirit of collegiality among its members; and

WHEREAS, The SCBA has been providing professional and community service since its incorporation in 1916 as a nonprofit corporation, including continuing legal education, mentoring, public information and legal services programs; and

WHEREAS, Currently, the Schenectady County Bar Association has approximately 300 members; its initial purpose was to serve the interests of

the legal community; over the years, as membership and the demand for legal services has grown, the Association's focus has broadened and now devotes most of its time and effort to the public good, sponsoring a moot court competition for middle and high school students, providing free legal services to eligible Schenectady County residents seeking divorces, and establishing an attorney in the classroom program among other initiatives; its goal is to bring the judicial system closer to the people it serves by continuing to increase its presence in the community; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding, the Schenectady County Bar Association has promoted and maintained the highest professional and ethical standards for all people involved in the practice of law, developed and improved legal education and research, and protected the interests of the public; and

WHEREAS, The success enjoyed by the Schenectady County Bar Association is in direct correlation to the efforts of the many individuals who have supported the development of this organization over the years; and

WHEREAS, The Schenectady County Bar Association has been a constant and constructive force in establishing and maintaining an environment of fair dealing and continued access to the courts, while serving as a vital and substantial element in the legal and business affairs of this State; and

WHEREAS, The Schenectady County Bar Association will continue to build upon its activities of the past 100 years to guide the legal profession into the next century with programs to help attorneys provide high quality service to their clients, and education to the general public; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper that the Schenectady County Bar Association be recognized on its 100th Anniversary for its important and valuable contributions to this State; and

WHEREAS, Equally commendable are the superbly-skilled members of the Schenectady County Bar Association whose involvement is and has always

been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all of their efforts on behalf of the local community they serve; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, the SCBA may take just pride in its purposeful growth, as it looks forward to continuing to serve the needs of its members and beyond; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Schenectady County Bar Association, and to recognize the significant role it plays in the life of its community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Schenectady County Bar Association.