

2015-J5404

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Torrey Joel DeVitto upon the occasion of her designation as the 2016 Italian American of the Year by the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those individuals of true purpose and worthy accomplishment who foster ethnic pride and strive to preserve their cultural heritage, thereby enhancing the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of community throughout this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Torrey Joel DeVitto upon the occasion of her designation as the 2016 Italian American of the Year by the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators to be celebrated on Monday, June 6, 2016, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Torrey Joel DeVitto, currently starring in the NBC drama, "Chicago Med," and most notable for her chilling recurring role as Carrie on The CW drama series, "One Tree Hill," is an accomplished actress, violinist, philanthropist, and proud Italian-American; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Huntington, New York, to Mary and Liberty DeVitto, Torrey Joel DeVitto was surrounded by the entertainment industry from the time she was born; her father played the drums for Billy Joel for 28 years; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of six, Torrey Joel DeVitto started taking violin lessons, and by the time she was in the fourth grade, she had earned her place as fourth chair in the New York High School Orchestra; before she was a teenager, she played in the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Florida Youth Artist Orchestra and performed on stage with her father, earning her a standing ovation; and

WHEREAS, With her heart in both the music and acting world, Torrey Joel DeVitto began taking acting lessons, and at the age of 15, she started working in commercials, modeling and print ads; she graduated from high school six months early and at the top of her class from the Crenshaw Performing Arts School; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from high school, Torrey Joel DeVitto moved to Los Angeles where her career as an actress began to take off; her works include playing Alexandra on the MTV pilot, "Alexandra the Great," guest starring on the NBC pilot, "One Big Happy," and guest starring in "The Untitled Michael Jacobs Pilot" for ABC as well as guest starring on episodes of "Scrubs," "Dawson's Creek," "Jack & Bobby," "The King of Queens," "Drake & Josh," "CSI Miami," and "Castle"; and

WHEREAS, Torrey Joel DeVitto booked her first lead on the ABC Family series, "Beautiful People," as aspiring model Karen Kerr; on the film front, her film debut was in "Starcrossed," and she has appeared in the 2006 movie sequel, "I'll Always Know What You Did Last Summer," "The Rite" with Anthony Hopkins, "Green Flash," "Killer Movie," and "Heber Holiday," as well as "Evidence"; and

WHEREAS, Staying true to her love of music, in 2002, Torrey Joel DeVitto played violin with the Tommy Davidson Band at the Sunset Room in Hollywood; she also played violin on Raphael Saadig's CD, "Ray Ray," in 2004, and in 2011, she played on Stevie Nicks' album, "In Your Dreams"; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed artist has proudly served her community dedicating much of her free time to philanthropy; for five years, Torrey Joel DeVitto has served as a Hospice Ambassador, and also supports PETA and The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS); and

WHEREAS, Torrey Joel DeVitto has truly distinguished herself through her wonderful career and service to others, and, consequently, the Italian-American community and all of New York State has profited greatly from her talent and dedication; 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 Torrey Joel DeVitto upon the occasion of her designation as the 2016 Italian American of the Year by the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Torrey Joel DeVitto.