

2015-J5451

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Sara R. Morris upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Kenneth L. Koessler Distinguished Faculty Award by the Canisius College Alumni Association on May 20, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character whose endeavors have enhanced the quality of education in this great State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Sara R. Morris upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Kenneth L. Koessler Distinguished Faculty Award by the Canisius College Alumni Association to be celebrated at the Canisius Spring Honors Convocation on Friday, May 20, 2016, in Buffalo, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the Canisius College Alumni Association's Kenneth L. Koessler Distinguished Faculty Award is presented to a Canisius faculty member in recognition of both their teaching excellence and outstanding contributions to the academic world; and

WHEREAS, Sara R. Morris, a professor of Biology at Canisius, has received this prestigious award in recognition of her many educational achievements as well as her passionate commitment to her discipline; and

WHEREAS, Sara R. Morris earned a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Presbyterian College, and completed her Master's and Doctoral degrees in Zoology from Cornell University; and

WHEREAS, Since beginning her teaching career at Canisius in 1996, Sara R. Morris has become beloved by both her students and fellow faculty members for her infectious enthusiasm and dedication to her work; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, this esteemed educator has energized students by effectively combining her lectures with engaging images, videos and

demonstrations to perfectly convey the subject matter from such classes as Introductory Biology to more advanced classes like Ornithology and Field Ecology; and

WHEREAS, Known for her dedicated mentoring, Sara R. Morris has provided unique field experience and research opportunities to countless biology program graduates while maintaining an active research team of Canisius undergraduate students to study bird migration; and

WHEREAS, In addition, many of Sara R. Morris's former research students have been accepted into top graduate programs and are working in a variety of positions, including doctors, veterinarians, researchers, college professors and high school biology teachers; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Sara R. Morris has contributed greatly to the betterment of Canisius College in her role as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, and has served as co-Chair of the Biology Department and Coordinator of the Environmental Science Program; she has also been active in securing grants and revising curriculum, and has played a key role on the Strategic Planning Committee, Faculty Status Committee, and Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS, A prominent figure within the Ornithological community, Sara R. Morris is a member of the American Ornithologists' Union and has served in various leadership positions with the organization; and

WHEREAS, Today, Sara R. Morris ably serves as President of the Wilson Ornithological Society and is on the steering committee for the North American Ornithological Conference while also giving professional workshops in Ornithology across the country; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous awards and honors during her exceptional tenure, Sara R. Morris was presented with an Oishei Teaching Professorship and a Peter Canisius Distinguished Professorship; and

WHEREAS, Sara R. Morris has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unrelenting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered at

Canisius College for the benefit of its faculty and students, as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when educators of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Sara R. Morris upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Kenneth L. Koessler Distinguished Faculty Award by the Canisius College Alumni Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sara R. Morris.