

2015-J6414

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Kenneth M. Tompkins upon the occasion of his retirement after nine years of distinguished service as Empire State Development Mohawk Valley Regional Director

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens of this great Empire State who have devoted themselves to faithfully serving the best interests of their community and the needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Kenneth M. Tompkins upon the occasion of his retirement after nine years of distinguished service as Empire State Development Mohawk Valley Regional Director; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, Kenneth M. Tompkins earned his Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh; he furthered his education by receiving his Master's degree in Communications from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth M. Tompkins began his illustrious career as a business reporter for the POST STANDARD in Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, After leaving the newspaper, Kenneth M. Tompkins served as Director of Corporate Communications for Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, which was acquired by National Grid in 2002; he was then promoted to the position of Vice President of Business Services for National Grid; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth M. Tompkins' responsibilities at the electricity and natural gas delivery company included the overall management of National Grid's large-customer, community and municipal relationships in the company's Mohawk Valley and Northern Region; he was also charged with

mobilizing company resources to assist with the region's economic and community development needs; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, Kenneth M. Tompkins was appointed to the title of Empire State Development (ESD) Mohawk Valley Regional Director, a position from which he will officially retire in June of 2016; and

WHEREAS, Empire State Development is New York State's chief economic development agency, encompassing business, work force and community development; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure, Kenneth M. Tompkins and his staff worked with companies, local economic developers and municipal leaders to create and retain jobs in a six-county area through the use of loans, grants and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth M. Tompkins 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, Kenneth M. Tompkins was a vital Board Member of the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council (MVEDGE), which was formed in August of 2011, to serve as an engine of economic and community revitalization; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his work with MVEDGE, Kenneth M. Tompkins has served as President of the Board of the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County and graduate from the Leadership Greater Syracuse program in 2007; and

WHEREAS, A man of many interests and passions, Kenneth M. Tompkins also holds the position of Vice President of the Central New York Community Arts Council, Second Vice President of the Upstate Cerebral Palsy Association, and Assistant Treasurer of the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce, as well as a board member of the Rome Industrial Development

Corp, the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, and the School and Business Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career, Kenneth M. Tompkins served

Empire State Development - Mohawk Valley regional office with intelligence and caring dedication, continuously striving to effectively fulfill the duties of his position; and

WHEREAS, Sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom he worked, Kenneth M. Tompkins will be remembered for his honesty, integrity, keen sense of duty and ability to show a unique grasp of human problems in his official acts; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Debra, and his three children, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Kenneth M. Tompkins upon the occasion of his retirement after nine years of distinguished service as Empire State Development Mohawk Valley Regional Director, and to wish him continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Kenneth M. Tompkins.