

2017-J51

Senate Resolution No. 51

BY: Senator RANZENHOFER

MOURNING the death of The Honorable R. Stephen Hawley, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, R. Stephen Hawley of Batavia, New York, died on Thursday, August 25, 2016, at the Silver Springs Adult Living Facility in Green Valley, Arizona; he was 94; and

WHEREAS, Born on December 16, 1921 to Warren Waldo Hawley Jr. and Emma Charlotte Morris, R. Stephen Hawley, graduated from Batavia Public Schools; he went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University in 1943; and

WHEREAS, R. Stephen Hawley valiantly served as a member of the United States Army for three years, two of which he spent in the China-Burma-India Theatre as captain in the Field Artillery during the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his military service, R. Stephen

Hawley entered into the family business with his father and brother as farm manager of Hawley Stock Farms; and

WHEREAS, R. Stephen Hawley distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, A Genesee County Legislator from 1969 to 1973, R. Stephen Hawley along with his late wife, Ellen, were strong supporters of the establishment of Genesee Community College; as a County Legislator, he helped supervise the construction of the present college; and

WHEREAS, Elected to the New York State Assembly in a special election in 1973, R. Stephen Hawley served the 137th district which encompasses Genesee, Orleans, part of Wyoming and Monroe counties; he remained a State Representative until his retirement in 1993; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career as an Assemblyman, R. Stephen Hawley's proudest accomplishment was the establishment of the New York State Veterans Home in Batavia; and

WHEREAS, R. Stephen Hawley's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; he served on the Town of Batavia Planning Board for ten years and the Batavia Board of Education for six years, four of which he served as president; and

WHEREAS, Active in his community, R. Stephen Hawley was an honorary member, Paul Harris Fellow and past president of the Rotary Club of

Batavia, past president of the YMCA Board of Directors, past director of the Batavia Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Committee of

the Genesee Council of Boy Scouts; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he was a member of the American Legion and VFW, the former Loyal Order of the Moose, the Batavia Lodge No. 475 F. & A.M., the former Batavia Club, the Town of Batavia Fire Department, the Stafford Grange and Elks Club of Green Valley, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, A member and past president of the Empire Livestock Marketing Cooperative, Pro-Fac Cooperative, Cooperative Extension, and Cornell University Council, R. Stephen Hawley was also a member of the Agway Council, as well as a member and past director of the Genesee County Farm Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his first wife, Ellen; his sisters, Elizabeth and Nancy; and a brother, Warren, R. Stephen Hawley is survived by his wife, Gennette; his children, Assemblyman Stephen M. (Theresa Doyle) Hawley, James W. Hawley and Theodore P. (Patricia) Hawley, Susan Hawley and Charlotte (Chris) Kinner; two step-daughters, Susan (Edward) Walbridge and Barbara Catta; 10 grandchildren, five step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, R. Stephen Hawley leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of The Honorable R. Stephen Hawley, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be

transmitted to the family of The Honorable R. Stephen Hawley.