

2019-K140

Assembly Resolution No. 140

BY: M. of A. Friend

COMMENDING Dr. Katherine P. Douglas upon the occasion of her retirement after eight years of dedicated service to Corning Community College in Corning, New York

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Dr. Katherine P. Douglas upon the occasion of her retirement after eight years of dedicated service to Corning Community College in Corning, New York; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion will be celebrated at an event on Friday, May 31, 2019, at the Corning Community College Campus; and

WHEREAS, After earning both her bachelor's and master's degree, Katherine P. Douglas obtained her doctorate degree from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst; she furthered her education by completing the Harvard Seminar for New Presidents; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas began her long and distinguished

community college career at Greenfield Community College (GCC) in Massachusetts where she earned tenure and taught Outdoor Leadership for 20 years; she then served as Associate Dean of GCC's Division of Behavioral Sciences, and later, as Dean of the Division of Social Sciences at Holyoke Community College, and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Sussex County Community College in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas became the sixth and first woman President of Corning Community College (CCC), the position from which she will officially retire on June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, In this capacity, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas led the development of a strategic plan employing a strengths-based approach, oversaw construction of CCC's first residence hall, conducted a successful capital campaign resulting in a fully-renovated library, Student Commons, and athletic facilities, and underwent a successful 10-year reaccreditation review by the Middle States Commission for Higher Education (MSCHE); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas' commitment to the power of partnerships has resulted in a new joint admissions program with Binghamton University called The Binghamton Express, the region's first early college high school, the Southern Tier STEM Academy housed at CCC's Goff Road facility, and a substantial grant from the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council to construct a new Health Education Center in downtown Corning; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to her profession and community, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas is actively involved in numerous organizations including Steuben

County Industrial Development Agency & Steuben County Economic Development Corporation, The Guthrie Clinic, I-86 Innovation Corridor

Integrated Workforce Strategy Implementation Sub-Committee, IncubatorWorks, Arnot Art Museum, and Clements Center Performing Arts Center, as well as the Jefferson Awards; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman also serves in a leadership role with the New York Community College Association of Presidents, the State University of New York, SUNY Task Force on Remediation, the Southern Tier Regional Community College Council, American Association of Community Colleges, and the Community Colleges of Appalachia; and

WHEREAS, A caring, competent and committed leader, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas' character and integrity are the hallmarks of her life and work as an educational leader, a community volunteer and as a person; and

WHEREAS, The residents of Steuben, Chemung, and Schuyler counties are indeed fortunate and blessed to have had such a dedicated and respected educational leader; her wisdom and contributions to Corning Community College have truly made a difference in the lives of those fortunate enough to have worked with her; and

WHEREAS, A significant contributor to education in New York State, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unrelenting enthusiasm for the quality of the educational programs and opportunities offered for the benefit of its faculty and students, as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, In completing her service as President, Dr. Katherine P. Douglas leaves behind more than mere bricks and mortar; she leaves behind a legacy to the students of Corning Community College and to the residents of Steuben, Chemung and Schuyler counties; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. Katherine P. Douglas upon the occasion of her retirement after eight years of dedicated service to Corning Community College, and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Katherine P. Douglas.