

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, N.Y., OCTOBER 20TH, 2016 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 20th day of October, 2016 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, *The Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and*

WHEREAS, *in 2010, a catastrophic earthquake ravaged the nation's capital of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, claiming the lives of 300,000 inhabitants, with 50,000 of those lost having been school children; and*

WHEREAS, *in response to the tragedy, JP Bak and his wife, Ulla, along with their daughter, Eva, and son, Christian, vowed to help rebuild the capital by starting to manufacture permanent housing that would sufficiently re-create a sustainable infrastructure; and*

WHEREAS, *as the Bak family, the Haitian community, and others achieved their dream to rebuild homes, it became clear that a genuinely sustainable future would depend on job creation and education; and*

WHEREAS, *the Bak family set out to build a manufacturing facility that would create local jobs, implement live training, and provide affordable computers to schools and businesses that historically went without access to such luxuries; and*

WHEREAS, *after earning a grant from USAID in 2013, the Bak family and the Haitian community succeeded in opening a tablet PC assembly facility in Port-au-Prince, where to this day, a leadership team of local owners work with the same Haitian employees to operate the facility that stands as a symbol of strength and hope for the Haitian people today; and*

WHEREAS, *on the heels of their success in Haiti, the Bak family took their business model to the United States, determined to recreate similar prosperity in another economically depressed area in need of a major makeover, thus establishing Bak USA, which is one of the first companies in history to build mobile computers on American soil with its grassroots manufacturing facility being located in the heart of downtown Buffalo, NY; and*

WHEREAS, *Bak USA computers are delivered to students, professionals, and consumers all over the world, from a student in a developing country to a healthcare professional in Western New York; and*

WHEREAS, *the Amherst Chamber of Commerce will honor the Bak family and Bak USA with their Social Entrepreneurship Award on October 24, 2016 at the Celebrating Business Excellence Event.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, *the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to recognize and acknowledge*

Bak USA

and the Bak family on receiving the Social Entrepreneurship Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, and for their dedication to represent an organizational ecosystem with each device giving a person the opportunity to learn more, to do more, and to be more than ordinary.

Thomas A. Loughran
Erie County Legislator, 5th District

Edward A. Rath, III
Erie County Legislator, 6th District