SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING VALERIE A. COOPER ON HER FIRM BEING AWARDED THE SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR AWARD BY THE GREATER NEW ENGLAND MINORITY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper, was recently named "Supplier of the Year" by the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council (the "GNEMSDC") and Ms. Cooper was honored at the Council's annual awards banquet on May, 6, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the GNEMSDC is a nonprofit group that promotes and fosters relationships between minority-owned businesses, and

WHEREAS, the GNEMSDC each year recognizes those certified minority suppliers who have distinguished themselves and their business by successfully demonstrating growth in sales and employment while overcoming significant obstacles; consistently providing high quality products and services at competitive prices, offering innovative approaches and cost-saving ideas; continuously growing certified minority supplier purchases; and significantly contributing to the growth and development of society and their community; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper is the founder of Picture That LLC, a Stamford-based art consulting firm that provides an extensive range of fine art services to enhance the aesthetic quality of environments in public and residential spaces and specifically promotes art by women and minority artists; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper was awarded this honor for her work with Saint Francis Hospital in its new five-story, 57,753 square foot medical facility in Hartford to install 72 photographs depicting Hartford's history and culture and reflecting the hospital's over 100-year history in the City; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper serves on the board of the Norwalk Community College Foundation; and has served on the boards of the Cultural Art Alliance of Fairfield County; the Stamford Old Town Hall Museum, SCORE and CTE, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Valerie A. Cooper has shown a tremendous commitment to the members of the Stamford community, the City of Stamford and beyond; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the 29th Board of Representatives that it congratulates Valerie A. Cooper on being named the 2014 "Supplier of the Year" by the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council.

Submitted by the 29th Board of Representatives Approved this 7th day of July, 2014

Randall M. Skigen, President

Annie M. Summerville, Clerk