LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Naming of the Serphin R. Maltese Academic Hall

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the City University of New York approve the naming of the “Serphin R. Maltese Academic Hall,” located on the 4th Floor of LaGuardia Community College’s C-Building.

EXPLANATION: Serphin R. Maltese is a former New York State Senator who represented New York's 15th State Senate District, located in southern and central Queens, for 20 years. During his tenure, he authored 219 bills that were signed into law. Senator Maltese’s support of his constituents is also reflected in his maintenance of an official 100% attendance record throughout his 20 years of Senate service.

Born in Corona, Queens to Italian immigrants, Senator Maltese graduated from P.S. 63, JHS 64 and Stuyvesant High School. After his military service, he went to Manhattan College on a Regents Scholarship and the G.I. Bill, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree. He was awarded a War Service Scholarship and received his LL.B. and J.D. degrees from Fordham University Law School, and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1963. He is an Army Infantry Veteran of the Korean War, previously serving in the Marine Corps Reserves. He is a life member of the American Legion, Catholic War Veterans, Korean War Veteran's Association and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Currently, Senator Maltese serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Christ the King Regional High School in Queens.

Senator Maltese has been an exceptional supporter of higher education. Since 2002, Senator Maltese has been a primary sponsor of state appropriations for LaGuardia Community College, securing over $50 million dollars in state capital funding for building renovations and elevator refurbishment, as well as for the creation of computer labs and space for departmental and faculty offices. Senator Maltese’s appropriations funded the creation of a comprehensive laboratory for the College’s Program for Deaf Adults.

The Senator is a recipient of LaGuardia’s President's Medal that is awarded annually at commencement to distinguished advocates of higher education.