



New York State Assembly Citation

On this 14th day of December, we come together with the Council of Heritage and Arts of India and the State of New York to honor

Dr. Venu Govindaraju

WHEREAS, Dr. Venu Govindaraju is the Vice President for Research and Economic Development at the State University of New York at Buffalo and is a SUNY Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Engineering; and

WHEREAS, At a time when Artificial Intelligence (AI) dominates the news, Dr. Govindaraju has been a pioneering leader in the field for years, driving innovations that have had global impacts; and

WHEREAS, Years ago, when AI seemed more like science fiction than a practical reality, Dr. Govindaraju led a team of graduate students and research scientists who pioneered the world's first autonomous system capable of deciphering handwritten addresses; and

WHEREAS, This AI and Document Analysis and Recognition (DAR) system, initially funded by the United States Postal Service, was subsequently adopted by the Australia Post and the United Kingdom Royal Mail; and

WHEREAS, Today, Dr. Govindaraju's DAR system reads addresses on nearly all handwritten mail in the United States in real-time, resulting in billions of dollars in savings for the U.S. Postal Service, and is widely regarded as one of the first success stories in the field of AI; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Govindaraju's impact on the field of DAR is far-reaching, and his techniques have led to applications in many fields, including the identification of early indicators of illness outbreak in healthcare forms for the New York State Department of Health and the automated reading of medical prescriptions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Govindaraju is currently applying his expertise in handwriting recognition to the development of screening and intervention tools to address dysgraphia and dyslexia among children with communication and language impairment disorders; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Venu Govindaraju, a proud Indian-American, is being recognized by the Council of Heritage and Arts of India of Western New York (CHAI WNY) as its "Person of the Year" for his pivotal and transformative contributions in his field; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that as a duly elected Member of the New York State Assembly, I pause and honor Dr. Venu Govindaraju on receiving CHAI WNY's "Person of the Year" award. Today, we recognize Dr. Govindaraju for his notable contributions to our community, the State of New York, and the United States of America.

*In witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
My Hand and Signature*

KAREN M. McMAHON
New York State Assemblymember