

## **2021-K30**

Assembly Resolution No. 30

BY: M. of A. Ra

CONGRATULATING Lucy Zha upon the occasion of her designation as a Finalist in the Regeneron Science Talent Search

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend and pay tribute to those young people who, by achieving outstanding success in educational competition, have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Lucy Zha upon the occasion of her designation as a Finalist in the Regeneron Science Talent Search; and

WHEREAS, Educational competitions which serve to better prepare our students for their future participation in the areas of Science and Technology are worthy of praise and support; and

WHEREAS, The Regeneron Science Talent Search, founded in 1942, is the country's oldest student research competition and is based in Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, Lucy Zha is among 40 finalists nationwide who will participate in a virtual competition from March 10-17, 2021, where she will compete before panels of expert judges for more than \$1.8 million in total awards; and

WHEREAS, A senior at The Wheatley School in the East Willison district of Old Westbury, New York, Lucy Zha was selected from 300

semifinalist scholars and a total applicant pool of more than 1,700; and

WHEREAS, For her project, Lucy Zha studied the potential of the plant-based chemicals curcumin and capsaicin on neuroblastoma cells, as well as their effects on hypothalamic cells; she chose her topic after she noticed curcumin, a natural anti-inflammatory compound, on the pharmacy shelf while shopping for medicine for a close relative who was diagnosed with thyroid cancer; and

WHEREAS, Lucy Zha further studied the plant-based chemicals at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst for the start of her research and finished at a lab at SUNY Westbury where she worked with Professor Wei Zhu; and

WHEREAS, Lucy Zha, a truly incredible and brilliant young woman, plans to continue her education and major in environmental science and public health; and

WHEREAS, In achieving this high academic honor, 17-year-old Lucy Zha takes just pride in the inspiration and contribution to the spirit of excellence she brings to her family, friends, community and school; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, this scholar now stands honorably, with just pride in her accomplishments and

in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided by her teachers, coaches and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Lucy Zha upon the occasion of her designation as a Finalist in the Regeneron Science Talent Search; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lucy Zha.