

## 2009-J4312

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Ryan Miller upon the occasion of his designation as the Most Valuable Player of the Olympic Hockey Tournament at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to extend its full recognition and grateful tribute to the outstanding athletes of New York State who have dedicated their purposeful lives to athletic achievement and proudly represented their great State and Nation in Olympic competition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to join the community of Buffalo, New York, in honoring a young man of great skill, personal courage and unparalleled dedication, whose character and athletic achievements are world-renowned and personify the highest ideals of the American spirit and Olympic competition; and

WHEREAS, Born July 17, 1980, in East Lansing, Michigan, Ryan Miller of the Buffalo Sabres in the National Hockey League grew up in East Lansing, Michigan, and graduated from East Lansing High School and Michigan State University; and

WHEREAS, As a college player for the Michigan State University Spartans, Ryan Miller set an NCAA record with 26 career shutouts and was the winner of the Hobey Baker Award in 2001; he is only the second Spartan in history to win the Hobey Baker Award; and

WHEREAS, At Michigan State, Ryan Miller was the CCHA's Goaltender of the Year all three of his seasons, and twice was the league's overall Most Valuable Player when he led the country in wins, winning percentage, save percentage, goals-against average and shutouts; he was also the 2001 Big Ten-Jesse Owens Men's Athlete of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Miller was selected as starting goalie for the United States of America in the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver; although the

United States team was not a medal favorite, he led the team to a perfect 5-0 start, including a 5-3 win over gold-medal favorite Canada in the preliminary round, where he rendered a stellar performance in stopping 42 of 45 shots; and

WHEREAS, The five wins in the 2010 Olympic ice hockey competition, including victories over Switzerland and Finland in the quarterfinals and semifinals respectively, brought the Miller led United States team to the gold medal game, where they faced the favored Canadian team for the second time; the United States lost the gold medal game by a score of 3-2 in overtime despite Miller's brilliant 36 saves; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Miller's United States Olympic hockey team won the silver medal, and he was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament, with a save percentage of .946, and an American Olympic record goals-against average of 1.35; along with being honored as the MVP, he won IIHF best goaltender honors and was named to the Olympic All-Star team; and

WHEREAS, Many will only dream of competing in the Olympic Games; this gifted athlete from this great Empire State, through hard work and a tenacious spirit, has made that vision a reality; he has proudly represented his country in competition among the world's finest athletes, an honor that gives just cause for his family, community and State to be exceedingly proud of his athletic achievements; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations with praise and pride to honor Ryan Miller upon the occasion of his designation as the Most Valuable Player of the Olympic Hockey Tournament at the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ryan Miller.