

2011-K164

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending McKenna Heffner, of Corning, New York, upon the occasion of her designation as a Distinguished Finalist in the 16th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and nation; and

WHEREAS, McKenna Heffner has distinguished herself as a young woman of superlative ability, establishing a high standard of community service, purposefulness of life, and sense of responsibility rarely achieved in youthful years; and

WHEREAS, McKenna Heffner, age 14, of Corning, New York, and a freshman at Corning Painted Post East High School, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by being named a 2011 Prudential Spirit of Community Distinguished Finalist; and

WHEREAS, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), are designed to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to others, and to encourage all young Americans to contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, As a Distinguished Finalist, McKenna Heffner will receive an engraved bronze medallion; and

WHEREAS, McKenna Heffner is a Girl Scout with the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways in Cicero; she has raised nearly \$14,000 in cash and in-kind gifts to support wishes for 15 terminally ill children through the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and

WHEREAS, To raise the funds, McKenna hosted a kids' talent showcase and silent auction, solicited donations and in-kind gifts from individ-

uals and businesses, and created a website to collect additional donations; and

WHEREAS, The success of the State of New York, the strength of our communities, and the vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like McKenna Heffner, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor McKenna Heffner, commending her for her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community service and recognizing the value of her labors and the promise of her future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, with praise and pride, to commend McKenna Heffner for her achievements and to extend to her the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being, fully confident of her response to the challenges of a promising future and appreciative of the model she represents for all young people of the Empire State; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to McKenna Heffner.