

2011-J1351

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Steven Tsai upon the occasion of his designation as New York State Champion of the Poetry Out Loud recitation contest

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the importance of the performing arts, which act to inspire, enlighten, and unify people from all cultural backgrounds through the transcendent power of human expression; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those young people within the great Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who serve as role models for their peers; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Steven Tsai, a senior at Wellington C. Mepham High School in North Bellmore, New York, upon the occasion of his designation as New York State Champion of the Poetry Out Loud recitation contest coordinated by The Poetry Foundation and The National Endowment for the Arts in March of 2011; and

WHEREAS, Steven Tsai remarkably beat 15 students to become the winner of Poetry Out Loud for New York State; to reach the state level, he won first place in poetry recitation contests at both the school and regional levels; and

WHEREAS, With a strong voice and incredible pronunciation, Steven Tsai was able to truly express the essence of the poetry; the poems he chose to perform were T.S. Eliot's "La Figlia Che Piange", John Donne's "A Valediction Forbidding Mourning" and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "A Psalm of Life"; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, this artist and scholar now stands honorably, with just pride in his accom-

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Steven Tsai upon the occasion of his designation as New York State Champion of the Poetry Out Loud recitation contest; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Steven Tsai.