

2011-J5180

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Wally Johnson upon the occasion of receiving the 2012 Pete Nevins Award for Distinguished Achievement

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Wally Johnson upon the occasion of his receiving the Pete Nevins Award for Distinguished Achievement; and

WHEREAS, The Pete Nevins Award for Distinguished Achievement has been presented since 2007 to an individual in recognition of his or her advancement of the field of athletic communications and advocacy for intercollegiate athletics; and

WHEREAS, The winner of the Pete Nevins Award for Distinguished Achievement must have served at least 25 years in the sports information field; and

WHEREAS, Wally Johnson is now in his 38th year as Director of Athletic Media Relations at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York, a position he assumed in 1999; and

WHEREAS, He was previously the University's sports information contact beginning in 1975; and

WHEREAS, Wally Johnson is a native of St. Albans, Vermont and a 1971 graduate of the University of Vermont, and was the assistant sports editor of the BURLINGTON FREE PRESS, a sports writer for the VERMONT SUNDAY NEWS and the ST. ALBANS MESSENGER, and a commentator for University of Vermont basketball broadcasts; and

WHEREAS, Wally Johnson currently does radio color commentary for St. Lawrence University's hockey games, in addition to providing sports articles for various North Country newspapers, and is an avid golfer, reader and photographer, providing photographs for the St. Lawrence University athletics website; and

WHEREAS, Wally Johnson was the 2001 recipient of the College Sports Information Directors of America Warren Berg Award, the 1995 winner of the ECAC-SIDA Irving T. Marsh Award for contributions to the field of

sports information, as well as the 1971 Vermont Sportswriter of the Year; and

WHEREAS, He has been active with the St. Lawrence Division men's ice hockey team since 1975 and is the longest tenured sports information director in ECAC hockey; and

WHEREAS, Wally Johnson has also been active in helping to host men's hockey championships, ski championships, and soccer championships, and has worked with teams participating in NCAA football, field hockey, soccer, track and field, basketball, swimming, golf, lacrosse and baseball during his St. Lawrence University career; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Wally Johnson upon receiving the 2012 Pete Nevins Award for Distinguished Achievement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Wally Johnson.