## 2013-J573

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Sixth Annual BNP Paribas Showdown as part of Tennis Night in America, March 4, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations, events and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is also the custom of this Legislative Body to officially acknowledge that exceptional sporting and athletic events greatly enrich the fabric of society in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Sixth Annual BNP Paribas Showdown as part of Tennis Night in America; this auspicious event will be held on Monday, March 4, 2013, at Madison Square Garden in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Tennis Night in America was launched in 2008 as a celebration of tennis; in 2009, the USTA became a partner providing added leverage to include all levels of tennis from beginners to professionals and kick off the start of the tennis season in North America; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, the BNP Paribas Showdown re-established what had previously been a long standing tradition of a major winter tennis event in New York City at Madison Square Garden; from the outset, the Showdown captivated the audience and played well to young and old alike; and WHEREAS, The BNP Paribas Showdown has, through the efforts of a dedicated group of people and a sponsor with a great understanding of tennis, become the most unique tennis event in the world; it builds on the storied tennis history at Madison Square Garden that spans more than 80 years; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Sixth Annual BNP Paribas Showdown as part of Tennis Night in America; and WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations, events and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments,

and which serve to bring people together for such glorious purposes, are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Sixth Annual BNP Paribas Showdown as part of Tennis Night in America; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

smitted to the BNP Paribas Showdown.