

## 2015-J765

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz of Stepping Stones Nursery School upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Love Fighter Award by Pietrosfight.org

WHEREAS, It is the practice 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 and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz of Stepping Stones Nursery School upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Love Fighter Award by Pietrosfight.org to be celebrated at its Fight Night! Round III Pietro vs. DMD on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at the El Caribe Country Club, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Pietrosfight.org is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds to help find a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), one of the most common and lethal childhood genetic disorders in the world; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization was founded by Manni and Dayna Scarso in 2012, after they learned their 3-year-old son, Pietro, was diagnosed with DMD; Pietrosfight.org continues to promote funding for research which will cure this deadly disease; and

WHEREAS, Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz met and became friends 16 years ago while student teaching at PS 204; after graduating college, Rosanna and Dawn taught for three years at PS 179, before deciding to take a chance on opening their own nursery school; and

WHEREAS, Since founding Stepping Stones Nursery School in 2002, these

two successfully constructed several learning programs with the help of their inspirational teachers; and

WHEREAS, Four years ago, Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz expanded their school's programs and opened Stepping Stones-The Next Step for Preschool Children; and

WHEREAS, Today, Rosanna Rizzo is the proud mother of two children, and Dawn Ortiz, three children; in addition, both truly enjoy their careers, and having the opportunity to meet the many wonderful, dedicated parents in their community; and

WHEREAS, After meeting the Scarso family, Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz have shown true dedication to fighting Pietro's Fight, and remain committed to helping find a cure; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of their community service, a period of constructive involvement, Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz have stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz of Stepping Stones Nursery School upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Love Fighter Award by Pietrosfight.org; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rosanna Rizzo and Dawn Ortiz.