

## 2015-J851

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Shay Kerwin of Wynantskill, New York, upon the occasion of his designation as a Distinguished Finalist in the 20th 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, Shay Kerwin has distinguished himself as a young man of superlative ability, establishing a high standard of community service, purposefulness of life, and sense of responsibility rarely achieved in youthful years; 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, Shay Kerwin, an esteemed resident of Wynantskill, New York, and a fifth-grader at Gardner-Dickinson School, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by receiving a 2015 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, This prestigious award honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Shay Kerwin earned this award by giving generously of his time and energy to the American Heart Association; he has raised substantial funds since he began volunteering for the organization's annual Heart Walk in 2012, after losing his father to a heart attack; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this exemplary young man helps prepare and serve meals at the Damien Center, and has organized various fundraising and awareness events for the American Heart Association including raffles and a bowling event; 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 Shay Kerwin, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, with praise and pride, to commend Shay Kerwin for his achievements and to extend to him the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Shay Kerwin.