

2015-J842

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring John "Buddy" Wleklinski upon the occasion of his induction into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, It is the sense of the State of New York to commend those notable teachers, coaches and administrators within our midst, who serve the youth of this great Empire State, and who have distinguished themselves and their communities through their exemplary athletic and professional achievements; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor long-time Christian Brothers Academy (CBA) teacher, basketball coach and Athletics Director John "Buddy" Wleklinski upon the occasion of his induction into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame on March 22, 2015; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Basketball Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have significantly improved basketball in New York State and have served as glowing examples of New York State Basketball; and

WHEREAS, Being inducted into the 2015 Class of the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame permanently recognizes Buddy Wleklinski for his long-time commitment and dedication to the students of New York State; and

WHEREAS, A 1975 graduate of CBA, Buddy Wleklinski was the starting point guard on the school's first Section III Basketball Championship team in 1975, also earning All-CNY honors as the shortstop of the undefeated CBA baseball team that same year; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Wleklinski went on to attend and graduate from the University at Albany, where he played on the basketball team from 1976-79, earning the Most Improved Player Award in 1978; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Buddy Wleklinski returned to CBA as a professional

educator; during his tenure, he has taught math, business and physical education at several grade levels, always inspiring and mentoring his students to excel in and outside of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Wleklinski took over the Christian Brothers Academy Varsity Boys Basketball program in 1984; since then, his basketball teams have compiled a 446-237 record, captured nine league championships, and advanced to the Section III Finals a total of 11 times, winning six Section III championships in four different classes; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Buddy Wleklinski, the Christian Brothers Academy basketball program has also advanced to the State Final Four three times and captured the NYSPHSAA State Championship in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Wleklinski was named the Director of Athletics at Christian Brothers Academy in 1989, and has since led nine different sports teams and several individual student athletes to state championships; and

WHEREAS, For his outstanding teaching and coaching efforts, Buddy Wleklinski was named CNY Coach of the Year in 1997 and again in 2009, New York State Coach of the Year in 1998, and Section III Coach of the Year in 2003 and again in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Wleklinski was also inducted into the Christian Brothers Academy Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004, and in 2008, CBA officially named its basketball court Buddy Wleklinski Court; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Buddy Wleklinski has received the Syracuse Sports Corporation's Believe To Achieve Award, which recognizes meritorious contributions to the Central New York community, and he was awarded the Lasallian Educator of the Year Award for the 2013-14 school year; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Wleklinski has dedicated a lifetime of giving back to his community and improving the quality of youth athletics, so it is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such accom-

plishments 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 congratulate John "Buddy" Wleklinski upon the occasion of his induction into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame on March 22, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John "Buddy" Wleklinski.