

2015-J2377

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Derek Sprague upon the occasion of his election as President of the Professional Golf Association of America

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary careers, accomplishments, and purposeful lives of service to their community and their profession; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Derek Sprague upon the occasion of his election as President of the Professional Golf Association of America on November 22, 2014; and

WHEREAS, A native of Malone, New York, Derek Sprague competed on the golf team at James Madison University where he earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration degree in Marketing in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Derek Sprague turned professional in 1989, and began his career at the Malone Golf Club; he was elected to Professional Golf Association (PGA) membership in 1993; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Derek Sprague began his service with the Northeastern New York PGA Board of Directors, serving as Section President from 2003-2004, and as a member of the employment committee from 1995-2001; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man provided outstanding service to the national golf community as both PGA of America Secretary and PGA Vice President, prior to his appointment as Interim President in October of 2014; and

WHEREAS, As PGA President, Derek Sprague's tenure will coincide with the organization's 100th Anniversary, the re-introduction of golf to the Olympics, and the 2016 Ryder Cup, to be held at Hazeltine National Golf

Club in Chaska, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Derek Sprague has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors including both the 2005 and 2008 Northeastern New York PGA Golf Professional of the Year; he is also a four-time Section Bill Strausbaugh Award recipient, a two-time Section Merchandiser of the Year for Public Facilities, and the winner of the 2006 Section President's Plaque for Outstanding Contributions to Player Development; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Jennifer, and their two children, Alexandra and Davis, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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 the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Derek Sprague upon the occasion of his election as President of the Professional Golf Association of America; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Derek Sprague.