

## 2015-J2451

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Jake Gallin of New Rochelle, New York, upon the occasion of his designation as a State Honoree 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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Jake Gallin of New Rochelle, New York, upon the occasion of his designation as a State Honoree in the 20th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program; and

WHEREAS, Jake Gallin 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, Jake Gallin, an esteemed resident of New Rochelle, New York, and a student at Albert Leonard Middle 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, Jake Gallin earned this award by giving generously of his

time and energy to raising funds for the United Service Organization (USO) by selling star-shaped magnetic decals; and

WHEREAS, Jake Gallin was inspired to do something to recognize military families and their sacrifices in 2011, after seeing First Lady Michelle Obama and Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden on a talk show when he was eight years old; the First Lady said 1% of our population is protecting 99% of us, and he took it to heart; and

WHEREAS, Jake Gallin decided to create "Stars for Cars", recognizing the sacrifices made by Blue and Gold Star Families; a Blue Star family has a loved one serving in the military, and a Gold Star family has lost a family member who was serving; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable young man's efforts have expanded by writing to schools across the State of New York, asking them to make announcements three times a year, on Veterans Day (November 11th), Memorial Day (the last Monday in May) and Patriot Day (September 11th) to recognize Blue and Gold Star families; 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 Jake Gallin, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Jake Gallin, 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 Jake Gallin 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 Jake Gallin.