

2015-J4257

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating John Basalyga, Class of 1970, upon the occasion of his induction into the 2015 SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor those individuals whose exceptional athletic prowess leaves an enduring legacy in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate John Basalyga, Class of 1970, upon the occasion of his induction into the 2015 SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame, which was celebrated at a ceremony held on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at Kuhl's Highland House, Middletown, New York; and

WHEREAS, The SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes those distinguished individuals, who, through outstanding achievement in athletics or service, have made lasting contributions to its sports program and the overall community; and

WHEREAS, John Basalyga, a member of the Class of 1970, was a two-year standout for the SUNY Orange Men's Baseball Team during the 1969 and 1970 seasons; and

WHEREAS, A prolific hitter, John Basalyga led his team in batting average and slugging percentage with a .353 average and a .549 slugging percentage during the 1969 season; and

WHEREAS, In addition, John Basalyga was a versatile catcher/first baseman who recorded the second highest number of putouts in 1969; he was also named to both the All-Mid-Hudson Conference and All-Region teams, and played one year of soccer as goalie on the school team; and

WHEREAS, After finishing school, John Basalyga enjoyed an outstanding career as a soccer coach at Turpin High School in Cincinnati, Ohio; he

compiled a 325-93-58 record over 24 seasons, with 22 consecutive winning seasons and 15 sectional championships; and

WHEREAS, For the past 12 years, John Basalyga has ably served as the soccer coach at Northern Kentucky University, where he has compiled a 152-68-30 record and guided the Norse to the NCAA Division II National Championship in 2010 and Division I status in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, this exceptional leader is the winningest coach in the history of Northern Kentucky University, and the first baseball player to be inducted into the SUNY Orange Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Athletes and Coaches like John Basalgya provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of student-athletes in their athletic journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, John Basalgya has clearly been an inspiration to the youth of SUNY Orange, as well as to the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and John Basalgya has clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of his school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate John Basalgya, Class of 1970, upon the occasion of his induction into the 2015 SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John Basalgya.