

2015-J4738

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Ossining High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team and Head Coach Dan Ricci upon the occasion of capturing their fourth consecutive New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class AA State Championship and winning its first ever Federation Tournament of Champions

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Ossining High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team upon the occasion of capturing their 4th consecutive New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) Class AA State Championship; and

WHEREAS, The Ossining Pride Girls Basketball Team defeated Shenendehowa 69-66 to win their fourth consecutive NYSPHSAA Class AA Title on Saturday, March 12, 2016, at Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Ossining Pride played excellent basketball throughout the season, defying expectations by reaching the championship game despite being a young team with few returning players from last year's title winning team; and

WHEREAS, The remarkable talent and perseverance displayed by this team is due in great part to the efforts of Coach Dan Ricci and his team of outstanding assistant coaches, skilled and inspirational tutors,

respected for their ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, The team's overall record, 28-2, is outstanding, and the team members were loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, The hallmarks of the Ossining High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team, from the opening game of the season to participation in the Championship, were a sisterhood of athletic ability, of good sportsmanship, of honor and of scholarship, demonstrating that these team players are second to none; and

WHEREAS, The Ossining Girls Varsity Basketball Team also won the Federation Championship on March 19, 2016 at the Albany Times Union Center where they defeated Long Island Lutheran School with a score of 64-54; and

WHEREAS, At one point they were trailing by 17 points, but overcame adversity to become the best women's basketball team in New York State; this historic comeback win shows the drive and determination the young women from Ossining possess; and

WHEREAS, Athletically and academically, the team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, Coach Dan Ricci and his dedicated staff have done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the team members toward their goals; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Coach Dan Ricci and these outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Ossining High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team; its members: Gabriella Ferrao, Jaida Strippoli, Kelsey Quain, Zaira Turner, Alexis Bernardo, Adriana McFadden, Shadeen Samuels, Angela Torricella,

Alyssa Aurora, Sam Cozzolino, Cassidy Martinez, Helen Ishmael, Kailah Harris, and Aubrey Griffin; Coach Dan Ricci and Trainer Luis Iglesias on their outstanding season and overall team record; and be it further RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Ossining High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team, Coach Dan Ricci, Trainer Luis Iglesias, and the assistant coaches.