

2015-J5584

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Ashley Van Slyke upon the occasion of receiving the distinguished Girl Scout Gold Award, the most prestigious of Scouting honors, on May 21, 2016

WHEREAS, Ashley Van Slyke, through her diligence and rigorous efforts, has achieved Scouting's highest and most prestigious honor, the Girl Scout Gold Award; she will be honored at a celebration held during the 7th Annual Meeting of Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways on Saturday, May 21, 2016, at the Carnegie Conference Center in Driver's Village in Cicero, New York; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Van Slyke of Manlius, New York, is a member of Girl Scouts of America Troop 10071; and

WHEREAS, America has achieved her greatest heights of glory through the dedication, determination and tireless efforts of the outstanding citizens of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, It is only with the continued diligence and devotion of our youth, tomorrow's leaders, that America will maintain her glory; and

WHEREAS, The Girl Scouts of America and its members are dedicated to the development of character and leadership in the youth of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, Since 1980, Senior Girl Scouts have capped their years of achievement in Girl Scouting with the Girl Scout Gold Award; and

WHEREAS, In order to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a girl must fulfill five requirements; chief among them is the design and completion of a Gold Award project; this project must build upon the interests of the girl, provide a service to the community, and be of lasting benefit; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Van Slyke's Gold Award project, titled "Operation Religious Tolerance," was completed in 116 hours over a period of 13

consecutive months; and

WHEREAS, For this important project, Ashley Van Slyke created a presentation about the basic principles, history and misconceptions of the main world religions, in order to address the issue of religious intolerance and certain misunderstandings about religions and cultures; and WHEREAS, Ashley's presentation included a detailed and well-researched power point presentation, a video of interviews with local religious leaders, and group discussion questions related to religious intolerance; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Van Slyke hosted a Religious Tolerance Event on Sunday, February 28, 2016, at the DeWitt Community Church at which she shared her presentation with her friends, her youth group, local Girl Scout troops, and local religious groups and leaders; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, Ashley Van Slyke sent disks with the power point presentation, video, and discussion questions to all the religious groups that attended her event, as well as to the NYPENN Girl Scout Council and other churches in the State to further reach additional youth groups; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Van Slyke's Gold Award project, which built upon her interests in religion and interfaith dialogue, has provided an important service to the community, proved to be of lasting benefit, and it is worthy of the Girl Scout Gold Award; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding young woman has been involved in Scouting for years, has lived up to Scouting's ideals and has attained all of the necessary achievements; and

WHEREAS, Ashley Van Slyke is a credit to her family, her school, her community, her State and her Nation, and no doubt her future will be filled with accomplishments of equal importance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, in recognition of the significance of this meritorious achievement, to congratulate and honor Ashley Van Slyke upon the occasion of her desig-

nation as recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ashley Van Slyke.