

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending James Taggart upon the occasion of being honored at the Capital District YMCA's 16th Annual Student and Educator Awards Breakfast on April 30, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those young people within the great Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who serve as role models for their peers; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend James Taggart upon the occasion of being honored at the Capital District YMCA's 16th Annual Student and Educator Awards Breakfast on Tuesday, April 30, 2013, at the Appel Inn, Guilderland, New York; and

WHEREAS, This honor recognizes high school students and educators from Guilderland, Voorheesville, Berne-Knox-Westerlo, Bethlehem, and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High Schools; 15 students and 3 educators are selected as overall winners for their dedication to service in their schools, community, and local YMCA; and

WHEREAS, James Taggart is a junior at Bethlehem High School, where he has been very involved with a local non-profit called PAZAPA, an acronym meaning "step-by-step" in Haitian Creole; and

WHEREAS, PAZAPA is a school for children with disabilities in Jacmel, Haiti; James Taggart has held garage sales and returned empty bottles and cans for recycling in order to raise funds for this cause; and

WHEREAS, James Taggart's compassionate and dedicated efforts have helped to support special education for more than 100 students, as well as a separate school for the deaf with more than 30 students; and

WHEREAS, With his sense of civic duty and his commitment to others, James Taggart represents the best development of the potential which is inherent in our most precious resource, our youth; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice 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 this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend James Taggart upon the occasion of being honored at the Capital District YMCA's 16th Annual Student and Educator Awards Breakfast; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to James Taggart.