LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Sarah Jackson upon the occasion of receiving the distinguished Girl Scout Gold Award, the most prestigious of Scouting honors, on May 10, 2013

WHEREAS, Sarah Jackson, through her diligence and rigorous efforts, has achieved Scouting's highest and most prestigious honor, the Girl Scout Gold Award; the ceremony will be held on Friday, May 10, 2013, at McKenna Elementary School in Massapequa Park, New York; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Jackson is a member of Girl Scouts of America Troop 2009, Massapequa, New York; 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, For her project, Sarah Jackson advocated for and educated her community on the myths and realities of sharks and the effect killing them for their fins (finning), has on the ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, In addition, this exemplary Girl Scout created a documentary by collaborating with a marine biologist, nature conservatory, Long Island Aquarium in Riverhead, New York, to advocate for legislation banning the practice of selling, distributing, or purchasing any product made by shark finning; 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, Sarah Jackson 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 Sarah Jackson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sarah Jackson.