

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Ashli Skura Dreher upon the occasion of her selection as the 2014 New York State Teacher of the Year

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the efforts of individuals in the teaching profession who distinguish themselves by their dedication and commitment to their students; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Ashli Skura Dreher upon the occasion of her selection as the 2014 New York State Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, This highly selective and prestigious award is a testament to Ashli Skura Dreher's educational philosophy, her performance in the classroom, and her tireless efforts to help each student succeed; and

WHEREAS, The State Teacher of the Year Program is sponsored by the following: the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT); the United Federation of Teachers (UFT); the New York State Parents and Teachers Association (NYSPTA); the New York State Association School Curriculum Development (NYSASCD); the New York State School Board Association (NYSSBA); the School Administrators Association of NYS (SAANYS); The New York State Association of Teacher Educators (NYSATE); The New York Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (NYACATE); ING Financial Services, Inc.; the Smarter Kids Foundation; SMART Technologies; and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO); and

WHEREAS, A high school special education teacher at the Lewiston-Porter Central School District in Youngstown, New York, Ashli Skura Dreher has been teaching in the Lewiston-Porter Central School District for 15 years and is the first teacher in the district to earn National Board Certification for Professional Teaching Standards, one of teaching's highest honors; she currently teaches special education in an 8:1:1 high school classroom working with students with moderate intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Ashli Skura Dreher is currently a dissertation level doctoral student in the Teaching and Curriculum Department of the University of Rochester's Margaret Warner School of Education and Human Development, where she enjoys researching literacy, specifically the best instructional practices for teaching and reading to students with moderate intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Ashli Skura Dreher has a strong work ethic and works tirelessly for her students, her colleagues and her school community; she has always been dedicated to connecting her school community to the larger global community and encouraging her students to become productive citizens of the world; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes great pride in recognizing esteemed citizens and is particularly proud to pay tribute to teachers, such as Ashli Skura Dreher, whose professional commitment and dedication have enhanced the excellence of education in the State of New York; she is a true asset to society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Ashli Skura Dreher upon the occasion of her selection as the 2014 New York State Teacher of the Year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ashli Skura Dreher.