

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Reginald Dennis upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education (NYACCE) 2013 Student of the Year Award

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of those individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary pursuit of education as adults; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Reginald Dennis upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education 2013 Student of the Year Award; he will be honored at NYACCE's 30th Annual Student Awards and Legislative Event on March 6, 2013, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, NYACCE represents adult education professionals with its primary missions of maintaining and expanding education and training opportunities for undereducated adults throughout New York State; and

WHEREAS, NYACCE strives to ensure that the opportunities afforded to these students continue to be available, and that additional adults in need of these services continue to be served without barriers; it is well understood that individuals who continue their education have a greater chance of improving their employment and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Reginald Dennis understands the value of education and the challenges and hardships that are sometimes faced when trying to obtain that education; and

WHEREAS, By age 15, Reginald Dennis had dropped out of school and was living on his own and working various jobs to survive; he even found himself homeless at one point during his youth; and

WHEREAS, Reginald Dennis knew he had to make some major life changes when he started caring for his own family at age 20, so he decided to return to school to obtain his high school equivalency diploma; and

WHEREAS, While pursuing his diploma through a High School Equivalency program at OCM BOCES, Reginald Dennis had to overcome several challenges, including full-time work commitments and a lack of transportation, but he persevered and eventually received his GED in December of 2011; and

WHEREAS, Reginald Dennis, a resident of Liverpool, New York, is now on a path to achieving personal success by meeting his goals; he received a full scholarship to attend Syracuse University through the Higher Education Opportunity Program and is presently studying Business Management; and

WHEREAS, Reginald Dennis also remains active in supporting the adult literacy programs at OCM BOCES by speaking to middle school students who are at risk of dropping out; and

WHEREAS, Reginald Dennis continues to inspire at-risk youth, and all who meet him, by demonstrating the importance of hard work and dedication; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Reginald Dennis upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education 2013 Student of the Year Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Reginald Dennis.