LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Great Southern Tier BOCES Bush Campus Culinary Arts Students upon the occasion of capturing First Place at the NYS ProStart Competition in New Hyde Park, New York, on March 14, 2015

WHEREAS, The arts, in whatever form depicted, are central to human expression; they are truly a universal language and their contribution to the development of friendship and understanding among all peoples cannot be underestimated; and

WHEREAS, Culinary competition enhances the moral and creative development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of artistic and creative expression; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Great Southern Tier BOCES Bush Campus Culinary Arts students upon the occasion of capturing First Place at the NYS ProStart Competition in New Hyde Park, New York, on Saturday, March 14, 2015; and

WHEREAS, As the winners of the NYS ProStart Competition, the extraordinary young Chefs from the Great Southern Tier BOCES were subsequently designated as Team NY, which represented the State at the National ProStart Invitational held in Anaheim, California, April 18-20, 2015; and

WHEREAS, The team members gained invaluable experience, and garnered knowledge from some of the world's most revered chefs and industry professionals; it was truly a life-changing and valuable event for all of them; and

WHEREAS, For their tireless hard work and outstanding culinary feats, the students from the Great Southern Tier BOCES Culinary Arts Program received scholarships and many opportunities to help further their careers as chefs; and

WHEREAS, The extraordinary students who competed in both the NYS Prostart and the National ProStart Competitions were: Samantha Olcott, Hannah Merrill, MyKenzie Wemmer, and alternate Rebekah Stoddard; and

WHEREAS, After much dedication and preparation the students from the Great Southern Tier BOCES Culinary Arts Program have demonstrated exceptional culinary talent and hard work that have led to National recognition; the team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 congratulate the Great Southern Tier BOCES Bush Campus Culinary Arts Students upon the occasion of capturing First Place at the NYS ProStart Competition in New Hyde Park, New York, on March 14, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the aforementioned members of the Great Southern Tier BOCES Bush Campus Culinary Arts Program.