

BY: Senator LAVALLE

CONGRATULATING the Port Jefferson Girls' Varsity Soccer Team upon the occasion of capturing the New York State Class C Girls' Soccer State Championship

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, The Port Jefferson Girls' Varsity Soccer Team are the New York State Class C Girls' Soccer State Champions; and

WHEREAS, The athletic talent displayed by this team is due in great part to the efforts of Head Coach Michele Aponte, a skilled and inspirational tutor, respected for her infinite ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, The team's overall record, 13-1-1, is outstanding, and the team members were loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, The hallmarks of the Port Jefferson Girls' Varsity Soccer Team, from the opening game of the season to participation in the championship, were a sisterhood of athletic ability, of good sportsmanship, of honor and of scholarship, demonstrating that these team players are second to none; and

WHEREAS, Athletically and academically, the team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school; and

WHEREAS, Michele Aponte, who moved up from instructing the JV team to coaching the Varsity team this year, has done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the team members toward their goals; former head coach Allyson Wolff remained with the team, serving as a volunteer assistant coach and was instrumental in helping to guide the team to the state finals; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Coach Michele Aponte and the 16 outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Port Jefferson Team; its members, Jillian Colucci,

Kaitlin Connolly, Brittany Fazin, Hailey Hearney, Sarah Hull, Gina Lucero, Clare O'Connor, Corrine Scannell, Brianna Scarda, Caelan Schretzmayer, Grace Swords, Alexa Wakefield, Camryn Ward, Mikayla

Yannucci, Amelia Zamek and Brooke Zamek; and Coach Michele Aponte on their outstanding season and overall team record; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Port Jefferson Girls' Varsity Soccer Team; Assistant Coach Allyson Wolff; Coach Michele Aponte; Athletic Director Danielle Turner; and Athletic Trainer Eric Fells.