

Senate Resolution No. 391

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMENDING Joseph T. White for his many years of dedicated service as both a Basketball and a Cross Country Coach on January 14, 2017

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, to commend notable educators and athletic coaches who serve the youth of this great Empire State and who have distinguished themselves and their schools through outstanding commitment and exemplary athletic achievement; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Joseph T. White for his many years of dedicated service as both a Basketball and a Cross Country Coach, celebrated at his 85th Birthday Party on Saturday, January 14, 2017, at the Celtic Harp in Utica, New York; and

WHEREAS, Joseph T. White, affectionately known as Joe, grew up in North Utica, New York; after high school, he played basketball and baseball at UCA; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 35, Joe T. White began his illustrious career at St. Peter's Grammar School coaching both track and cross country; in the 1970s, his basketball teams dominated the old Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) League, winning the City of Utica Championship in 1972-1973; and

WHEREAS, After 15 years at St. Peter's Grammar School, Joe T. White began working at Notre Dame High School, coaching the Boys Varsity Basketball Team; and

WHEREAS, In 12 years as Head Coach, Joe T. White posted a 175-88 record, finishing his career as the winningest coach in Juggler history up to that point; and

WHEREAS, Coach White's teams won five Central Oneida League (COL) titles, four Tri-Valley League (TVL) titles and four Section II titles; his 1991-1992 team made the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's Final Four, and his 1984-1985 team was named the Western Regional Runner-Up; and

WHEREAS, Joe T. White was a friend to everyone and always stayed true to his beliefs, making the kids his number one priority; considered to be an "old-school coach," he was always available to help his athletes achieve their goals and dreams; and

WHEREAS, For his unparalleled success as a coach and mentor, Joe T. White was named COL Coach of the Year three times, and TVL Coach of the Year four times throughout his magnificent career; and

WHEREAS, Joe T. White was also inducted into both the St. Peter's Hall of Fame and the Notre Dame/Brother More Athletic Hall of Fame; in

addition, he was the recipient of several awards including the Friend of St. Peter Award and the Notre Dame Award; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his community, Joe T. White found time to serve as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Maynard Fire Department; for the last 45 years, he has actively worked to provide the best possible emergency service to the people of Oneida County; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 62, Joe T. White retired from his much loved coaching job, and from his position as Supervisor with the New York State Office of Mental Health, a title he held for four decades; and

WHEREAS, Joe T. White and his wife of 58 years, Mary Lou, are the proud parents of six children and 11 grandchildren; together the couple founded the Marian Club at Notre Dame High School; through their enthusiastic efforts, the Club has awarded numerous scholarships to worthy students; and

WHEREAS, Joe T. White's positive demeanor, selfless commitment, and caring concern have contributed to his enduring success as a coach and mentor, earning him the just respect and admiration of his community, his peers, and the athletes he has so ably coached; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Joseph T. White for his many years of dedicated service as a Basketball Coach as well as a Cross Country Coach; and to wish him a very Happy 85th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joseph T. White.