

BY: Senator TEDISCO

HONORING Gary DiNola upon the occasion of his induction into the Schenectady City School District Athletic Hall of Fame on September 17, 2018

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to outstanding athletes who have distinguished themselves through their exceptional performance, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Gary DiNola upon the occasion of his induction into the Schenectady City School District Athletic Hall of Fame, to be celebrated at its 21st Annual Reunion Dinner on Monday, September 17, 2018, at Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia, New York; and

WHEREAS, Gary DiNola is an esteemed graduate of Mont Pleasant High School where he distinguished himself by his many notable achievements in basketball and baseball; he also played basketball and lacrosse at Fairleigh Dickinson University and has been a much beloved and respected coach for various schools; and

WHEREAS, Gary DiNola coached varsity boys' basketball, baseball, softball, golf and girls' track & field at his alma mater, Mont Pleasant High School; his many accomplishments include a Big Ten softball title, and his 1986-1987 basketball team won the Section II Class B title, as well as the Regional title, and advanced to the NYSPHSAA Semifinals; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Coach DiNola's 1987-1988 basketball team won the Big Ten title and advanced to the Class B Sectional championship game, finishing with a record of 20-3; his cumulative record was 78-61; and

WHEREAS, Gary DiNola then joined the staff at Schenectady Central School District where he was a teacher, administrator, coach and athletic director; from 1994-1998, he was the boys' basketball coach, ending his tenure with an outstanding record of 66-30; and

WHEREAS, Gary DiNola's 1997-1998 team captured the NYSPHSAA Basketball Championship, the Section II Championship, and the Regional and Big Ten titles; this historic team finished with a 28-1 record, losing to Rice in the Federation Semifinals; several of his players went on to play Division I basketball, and he was named Coach of the Year in 1987, 1988 and 1998; and

WHEREAS, Gary DiNola served as Assistant Basketball Coach under Doc Sauers at SUNY Albany from 1989-1994; during this time, the team earned three NCAA Tournament berths and an Elite Eight appearance in 1994; the 1993-1994 team was inducted into the University at Albany Athletic Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to his community, Gary DiNola founded and directed the Mont Pleasant Basketball Academy and Youth Sponsorship Program, and the Schenectady Summer Basketball Academy and Youth Scholarship and Sponsorship Program; and

WHEREAS, Gary DiNola was also a successful lacrosse coach for Albany Academy; his 1999 team was nationally ranked, and his teams won two Section II titles; furthermore, he was an Assistant Lacrosse Coach at RPI for four seasons, and coached lacrosse in the Empire State Games; and

WHEREAS, In addition to being inducted into the Schenectady City School District Athletic Hall of Fame, Gary DiNola is a member of the Upstate New York Basketball Hall of Fame; he was also named the Schenectady Central School District Teacher of the Year in both 1986 and 1998; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such outstanding athletic accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Gary DiNola upon the occasion of being inducted into the Schenectady City School District Athletic Hall of Fame for his extraordinary accomplishments which were a tribute to his skill, dedication and commitment; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Gary DiNola upon the occasion of his induction into the Schenectady City School District Athletic Hall of Fame on September 17, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Gary DiNola.