

**BY:** M. of A. Palmesano

**COMMENDING** Ray Lawson upon the occasion of being named the New York State Boys High School Coach of the Year by the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor those individuals of outstanding character within the State of New York who are dedicated to developing character and sportsmanship in our young people; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Ray Lawson upon the occasion of being named the New York State Boys High School Coach of the Year for the second straight season by the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA); and

**WHEREAS,** Every year, one boys coach and one girls coach from each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia are honored for their successes, as selected by a committee of experts around the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** The factors taken into consideration were team score and placement at the state championships, margin of victory, performance against rankings if available, individual championships, and how their teams' performance stacked up to previous years; and

**WHEREAS,** This momentous recognition qualifies Ray Lawson for the National High School Cross Country Coach of the Year Award; and

**WHEREAS,** As the Corning Hawks Head Cross Country Coach, Ray Lawson led the Corning Boys Cross Country Team to a Section IV title, their second straight New York State Championship, and a team trip to the Nike National Meet in Portland, Oregon; and

**WHEREAS,** Ray Lawson'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; and

**WHEREAS,** With his unrelenting commitment to the Corning Cross Country Team, Ray Lawson is the quintessential selection as Coach of the Year; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Ray Lawson upon the occasion of being named the New York State Boys High School Coach of the Year by the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ray Lawson.