

BY: Senator PALUMBO

COMMENDING Paul Longo upon the occasion of being inducted into the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to outstanding coaches 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 commend Coach Paul Longo from the William Floyd School District upon the occasion of being inducted into the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Every year, the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame publicly commends the pursuit of athletic excellence, recognizes those who have excelled, and strives to preserve Suffolk County's rich athletic heritage; Coach Paul Longo is truly deserving of this prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, Ever since he was a young child, Paul Longo has wanted to be a coach; he can vividly remember bonding with his father in friendly spars over the virtues of the New York Giants versus Jets or from the sidelines at a William Floyd High School football game; and

WHEREAS, Paul Longo's dream came to fruition when he became the coach of the football team at his alma mater, serving as a skilled and inspirational tutor, respected for his ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, On October 30, 2021, Paul Longo recorded his 212th career win, becoming Suffolk County's all-time winningest football coach with a decisive 37-15 victory over Ward Melville High School; during the remainder of the season, he and his team went on to win two more games; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure, Coach Paul Longo has led the Colonials to 13 county titles, and between 2005-2008, he and his student athletes enjoyed a 42-game winning streak, a Long Island football record; in 2007, **Sports Illustrated** magazine ranked his squad as one of the 25 best teams in the country; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his role of Coach, Paul Longo was a guidance counselor at William Paca Middle School for 33 years, which provided valuable skills for his success as a coach and mentor; he truly loves his athletes, and has always enjoyed getting to know each and every one of them; and

WHEREAS, Coach Paul Longo has clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of his Suffolk community; 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; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Paul Longo upon the occasion of being inducted into the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Paul Longo.