

BY: Senator PALUMBO

CONGRATULATING four Southold High School students upon the occasion of receiving top honors at the 2022 Youth Business Summit, a renowned national business competition

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those young people who, by achieving outstanding success in educational competition, have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing tradition, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate four Southold High School students upon the occasion of receiving top honors at the 2022 Youth Business Summit, a national business competition; and

WHEREAS, The four distinguished student honorees are Southold High School Seniors Katie Russell, Naomi Cichanowicz, Landon Bennett, and Angelina Bokina; and

WHEREAS, The students were enrolled in a Virtual Enterprise program which transforms classrooms into mini-enterprises that are built from the ground up, spanning from product development to design and packaging, production partners and implementation of a business plan; it also covers adjacent skills such as marketing, web design, management, and public speaking; and

WHEREAS, Tasked with utilizing the principles of business development and management to create a solution to a common problem facing their school community, these four Southold Seniors created Doze, their company which won first place for its marketing plan, eighth in the country for its business plan and was a national qualifier for its finance and human resources departments at the Youth Business Summit 2022 in New York City which was held April 4-7, 2022; and

WHEREAS, After surveying peers, faculty, and community members in their school, the students realized lack of sound sleep was a top issue facing those around them; the Seniors then developed an all-natural sleep lozenge made with magnesium, valerian root, chamomile, melatonin and hemp extract; and

WHEREAS, The students were able to connect with many local companies who pledged support with real and virtual money to get their project off the ground; guest speakers were also invited to the class to share tips on topics such as personal marketing, using social media platforms like LinkedIn, and how the hemp industry works as it relates to the students' product; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the students were up against schools from all over the nation; they all held oral presentations, question and answer

forums, and went through multiple rounds of virtual presentations to qualify for Nationals; and

WHEREAS, During the competition, the financial plan was presented by Angelina Bokina, human resources by Landon Bennett, the business plan by Katie Russell, Naomi Cichanowicz, Landon Bennett and Angelina Bokina, and the marketing plan by Katie Russell, who was designated the CEO of the company; and

WHEREAS, The Seniors expressed gratitude that the course covered numerous topics such as professionalism, interviews, public speaking, dress codes, formatting emails, and even good table manners for business situations; these skills will travel with them and prove useful in any future professional endeavors they pursue; and

WHEREAS, The business class in Southold High School was taught under the knowledgeable and experienced leadership of Mrs. Ellwood, who helped hone and develop the skills of the Seniors; she is proud of the four students and their outstanding achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such impressive academic achievement are brought to our attention, they should be revered and celebrated by all the citizens of this great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate four Southold High School students upon the occasion of receiving top honors at the 2022 Youth Business Summit, a renowned national business competition; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Katie Russell, Naomi Cichanowicz, Landon Bennett, Angelina Bokina, and Mrs. Ellwood.