

BY: Senator GRIFFO

CONGRATULATING Cameron Ricci upon the occasion of stepping down as President of the New York State Elks after his distinguished service to this vital organization

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who would devote their life's work and purpose to community service, contributing to the welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Cameron Ricci upon the occasion of stepping down as President of the New York State Elks after his distinguished service to this vital organization; and

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) is one of the oldest and largest fraternal organizations in the world, with about one million members in more than 2,000 lodges across the United States; and

WHEREAS, BPOE strives to teach the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government; and

WHEREAS, Cameron Ricci, affectionately known to many as Cam, joined the Herkimer Elks Lodge No. 1439 in the Spring of 1987, and joined the softball and bowling team which won the New York State Bowling Tournament; and

WHEREAS, In the Spring of 1997, Cameron Ricci became an officer and began his ritual journey as the Lodge Esquire; under his luminous leadership, the Herkimer team placed 1st at the Grand Lodge Convention that year; and

WHEREAS, Cameron Ricci rose through the ranks, and during his Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Esteemed Loyal Knight, and Esteemed Leading Knight years, he was part of the Herkimer teams that went to Grand Lodge earning 1st All-American Leading Knight; as Exalted Ruler in 2000-2001, his team went to Grand Lodge again, and placed 2nd nationally; and

WHEREAS, Cameron Ricci was also a member of the House Committee, a Trustee of the Lodge, and Secretary of the Lodge for six years; and

WHEREAS, For his steadfast and unremitting commitment to the Elks organization, Cameron Ricci was named the 2008-2009 Elk of the Year; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, Cameron Ricci became the State Accident Prevention and Risk Management Chairman, holding the position until 2022; from 2018-2019, he served as the District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Central District of New York State; and

WHEREAS, In his esteemed role as President of the New York State Elks, Cameron Ricci achieved his goal of adding 4,300 new members statewide, carried the New York State Flag at the National Convention, and visited every district in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife and First Lady, Jo-Anne Ricci, who feels privileged to be a part of his life and rejoices in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Cameron Ricci has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Cameron Ricci upon the occasion of stepping down as President of the New York State Elks after his distinguished service to this vital organization; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Cameron Ricci.