

BY: Senator PALUMBO

CONGRATULATING the Ward Melville High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team upon the occasion of capturing the 2023 NYSPHSAA Soccer Class AAA Championship

WHEREAS, Individual and team championships are highly sought after in high school sports; this Legislative Body commends rare athletic achievements and pays special recognition to those who pursue such excellence and become examples for the youth of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition helps to enhance both the moral and physical development of young athletes, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the importance of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Ward Melville High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team upon the occasion of capturing the 2023 NYSPHSAA Soccer Class AAA Championship on Sunday November 12, 2023; and

WHEREAS, To the praise and applause of their excited fans, the Patriots defended their State title and defeated Monroe-Woodbury in a thrilling 4-0 victory at Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden, New York; and

WHEREAS, This monumental win capped the Ward Melville High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team's fourth undefeated season in the league, with the team impressively not losing a game since their 2021 season; and

WHEREAS, Proudly donning the school's colors of green and gold, family, friends, and the community at large loyally and enthusiastically supported the Patriots throughout their journey as they ended their season with an impressive 19-0-3 overall record; and

WHEREAS, In a sport such as soccer, which demands athletic prowess, speed and agility, Coaches John Diehl and Louise Williams have worked hard to hone the skills of this championship team, teaching these outstanding athletes lessons which will prove invaluable both on and off the field; and

WHEREAS, Coaches John Diehl and Louise Williams and all of the outstanding athletes on the Ward Melville High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team have clearly utilized dedication, determination, and teamwork in providing a lasting contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the members of the Ward Melville High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team: Jill Anderson, Valentina Arrubla, Lauren Cosenza, Maddie Costello, Peyton Costello, Courtney Gaine, Breena Harrigan, Emily

Herrnstein, Kate Herrnstein, Rachel Herrnstein, Keira Hunt, Sarah Jablonsky, Gabrielle Justiniano, Ava Justino, Aliyah Leonard, Ireland McGowan, Mia Modica, Montana Nemeth, Sadie Pitrelli, Kate Ronzoni, Carolyn Rowe, Samantha Ruffini, Marissa Tonic, Adriana Victoriano, Alessandra Victoriano, Cassidy Ward, Coaches John Diehl and Louise Williams, JV Coach Jennifer Balzan, Trainers Jennifer Chimienti and Allison Pinard, and AD Kevin Finnerty upon the occasion of capturing the 2023 NYSPHSAA Soccer Class AAA Championship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Ward Melville High School Girls Varsity Soccer Team, Coaches John Diehl and Louise Williams, JV Coach Jennifer Balzan, Trainers Jennifer Chimienti and Allison Pinard, and AD Kevin Finnerty.