

**BY:** Senator ASHBY

**CONGRATULATING** Ragan Retell upon the occasion of capturing the 126-pound Section II NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Invitational Championship on January 26, 2024

**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,** High school wrestling builds and strengthens self-reliance, mental toughness, competitive spirit, self-discipline and develops diet and nutrition goals through the process of "making weight", preparing student athletes for future life goals; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Ragan Retell upon the occasion of capturing the 126-pound Section II NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Invitational Championship on Friday, January 26, 2024, at SRC Arena, Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** In front of a capacity crowd and a fan base of family, friends and teammates, Ragan Retell bested Bella Satalino of Columbia High School in a decisive 9-5 victory to be crowned the state champion; and

**WHEREAS,** A standout wrestler for the Tamarac High School Girls Wrestling Team, Ragan Retell has reached a high-level of success; she was named a two-time Fargo All-American and won 1st place at the Section II Girls Ranking Tournament at Cambridge High School, 2nd place at the Eastern States Championship Tournament, "Most Outstanding Wrestler" and 126 lb. Champion at the Shaker's Queen Bison Tournament, and lastly she was the 126 lb. champion of the Columbia Dames and Devils Tournament; and

**WHEREAS,** As a testament to her remarkable athletic ability, Ragan Retell collected her 100th career win on January 28, 2024; given an amazing opportunity due to her hard work, she was invited to Team USA's Olympic Trials Training Camp; and

**WHEREAS,** Ragan Retell has committed to wrestle on the Women's Team at Elmira College in the Fall, where she will be pursuing a degree in nursing; and

**WHEREAS,** In a sport such as wrestling, which demands athletic prowess, speed and agility, Head Coach Kevin Retell worked hard to hone the skills of this champion, teaching this outstanding athlete lessons, which will prove invaluable both on and off the mat; and

**WHEREAS,** Ragan Retell has clearly utilized dedication,

determination, and teamwork in providing a lasting contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of her school; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Ragan Retell upon the occasion of capturing the 126-pound Section II NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Invitational Championship on January 26, 2024; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ragan Retell and Head Coach Kevin Retell.