

**BY:** Senator RAMOS

**HONORING** the Lexington School for the Deaf upon the occasion of hosting its 28th Annual Basketball Classic vs. Assembly/Senate All-Stars on May 20, 2025

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishments clearly demonstrate an enduring pursuit of excellence in the education of deaf youth in the Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Lexington School for the Deaf upon the occasion of hosting its 28th Annual Basketball Classic to be held at the Kipp Tech Valley Charter School Gymnasium on Tuesday, May 20, 2025; and

**WHEREAS,** This annual contest will feature the Lexington School for the Deaf versus the Assembly and Senate All-Stars; and

**WHEREAS,** The Lexington School for the Deaf was founded in 1864 when the first class of six children and an instructor was convened at the home of Isaac and Hannah Rosenfeld; and

**WHEREAS,** Due to constantly increasing enrollment, the school moved several times until it settled in 1882, at 904 Lexington Avenue with 161 students; in 1934, it officially became the Lexington School for the Deaf; and

**WHEREAS,** The Lexington School for the Deaf continued to grow and in 1968, its new home was inaugurated on a six-acre site at 30th Avenue and 75th Street in Jackson Heights, Queens; and

**WHEREAS,** Today, the Lexington School for the Deaf, with a student body of over 250 children, from infants through high school seniors, is the largest school for the deaf in New York State, and its student body resides throughout the five boroughs of New York City and adjacent counties; and

**WHEREAS,** A charter member of the 4201 Association, New York State-supported private schools for disabled children, the Lexington School for the Deaf houses the only high school in New York City under the auspices of the 4201 charter; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to its strong academic program, the Lexington School for the Deaf offers a broad range of physical and cultural education programs, including highly regarded basketball teams; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1995, Joseph Crowley, a former member of the New York State Assembly representing the Lexington School for the Deaf,

established the Lexington School versus the New York State Legislature Basketball Game; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the practice of this Legislative Body to extend its highest commendation to all the individuals who have been involved with the Lexington School for the Deaf, past and present, noting the importance of their work and their enduring commitment to deaf children; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Lexington School for the Deaf upon the occasion of hosting its 28th Annual Basketball Classic; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitable engrossed, be transmitted to Seth Bravin, Interim CEO/Superintendent; Maria Noto, CFO; Jane Moran, Special Assistant to the CEO/Superintendent; Carlos Aponte-Salcedo, Jr., Director of Student & Family Engagement; Cindy S. Casson, Director, Community Relations; Nicolas Tegni, Athletic Director; Adam Pagan & Andy Cruz, Varsity Boys Basketball Coaches; and Raven Pentz and Wendell Forbes, Varsity Girls Basketball Coaches.