

Senate Resolution No. 1416

BY: Senator MARTINS

HONORING Sophia Li upon the occasion of being named a 2026 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor exceptional students whose achievements reflect extraordinary dedication, intellect, and service to the advancement of science and education; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Sophia Li upon the occasion of being named a 2026 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar; and

WHEREAS, Sophia Li, a senior at John L. Miller-Great Neck North High School, has been named a 2026 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar, one of the most prestigious distinctions awarded to high school researchers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Regeneron Science Talent Search, established in 1942 and widely regarded as the nation's oldest and most esteemed science and mathematics competition for high school seniors, selects just 300 Scholars nationwide from an applicant pool of nearly 2,600 students; and

WHEREAS, Sophia Li earned this distinguished recognition for her innovative research project entitled "Closing the Shade Gap: Advancing Environmental Equity Through Understanding Tree Canopy Disparities in Redlined Communities With i-Tree," which demonstrates exceptional scientific rigor, creativity, and a commitment to environmental justice and community equity; and

WHEREAS, As a Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar, Sophia Li will receive a \$2,000 award, with a matching grant awarded to her school, further supporting excellence in science education and research; and

WHEREAS, Sophia Li's achievement reflects great credit upon herself, her family, her mentors, and the Great Neck Public Schools, including her science research advisors and faculty, whose guidance and dedication help cultivate the next generation of scientific leaders; and

WHEREAS, Through her scholarship, perseverance, and passion for discovery, Sophia Li exemplifies the highest ideals of academic excellence and civic responsibility, serving as an inspiration to students across New York State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and commend Sophia Li upon the occasion of being named a 2026 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be

transmitted to Sophia Li.