

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING the Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner Football Program upon winning the regional championship and achieving a top five national championship finish

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend youth athletic organizations whose commitment to discipline, teamwork, and character development strengthens communities and provides young people with pathways to excellence, leadership, and lifelong success; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner Football Program upon the occasion of winning its regional championship during the 2025 season, culminating on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, and advancing to national competition, where the team distinguished itself by finishing fifth in the nation, an extraordinary achievement reflecting perseverance, preparation, and collective effort; and

WHEREAS, Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner has long served as a cornerstone of youth development in the City of Schenectady, providing generations of young athletes with a safe, structured, and values-based environment that emphasizes sportsmanship, academic responsibility, and personal growth alongside athletic excellence; and

WHEREAS, The enduring success and integrity of the Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner program are rooted in the visionary leadership and selfless service of its founder and longtime president, George A. Rose, whose more than fifty years of dedication helped inspire and mentor thousands of young people, leaving an indelible legacy of community uplift, opportunity, and hope that continues to guide the program following his passing in 2023; and

WHEREAS, The 2025 championship season was made possible through the tireless commitment, guidance, and mentorship of the program's coaches and staff-William Kent, Sean Kent, Garry Murray, Edward Rucker, Kawaun Wiggins, Nahvasia Estepa, and Sarah Bailey-whose leadership fostered discipline, teamwork, resilience, and belief in every athlete under their care; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable achievement reflects the determination, talent, and unity of the Belmont Pop Warner players, including Yuriah Bailey, Elias Bowen, Dominic Coleman, Brian Custodio, Javonni Dobbs, JaDon Ferguson, Ah'nyai Graves, Kian Henry, Messiah Hicks, Termaine Holloway Jr., Aiden Jenkins, Kobe Jenkins, Chaz Johnson, Dominic Jones, Xaiden Jones, Chase Lewis, Gauntlett Lewis, Nathan Mayer, Quemahji Murray, Sergino Newton, Damian Rucker, Jaycion Sanchez, Alaun Smith, Dumar Smith Jr., Amaree Spencer, Luis Tapia, and Josiah Womack, whose hard work and sportsmanship brought pride to their families, coaches,

and community; and

WHEREAS, By securing a regional championship title and earning a top-five national finish, Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner has demonstrated the power of community-based youth athletics to cultivate confidence, leadership, and excellence, while honoring a legacy built on service, mentorship, and belief in the potential of every child; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner Football Program upon winning its regional championship during the 2025 season and achieving a fifth-place finish at the national level, and to commend its players, coaches, staff, families, and supporters for an outstanding season and exemplary representation of their community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Schenectady Belmont Pop Warner Football Program as an expression of the highest esteem and appreciation of this Legislative Body.