Assembly Resolution No. 1289

BY: M. of A. Walsh

CONGRATULATING Ava Guilmette of Shenendehowa High School upon the occasion of capturing the 2026 NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Championship title in the 165-pound Division on February 26, 2026

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play, and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success, and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Ava Guilmette of Shenendehowa High School upon the occasion of capturing the 2026 NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Championship title in the 165-pound Division at the MVP Arena in Albany, New York, on Thursday, February 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, To the praise and applause of her excited fans, sophomore Ava Guilmette captured the championship by pinning her opponent just 55 seconds into the bout for the victory and her second consecutive state championship; and

WHEREAS, This win capped an impressive season for Ava Guilmette, who finished the season with an outstanding 24-1 record with 13 pins; and

WHEREAS, Prior to entering high school, Ava Guilmette enjoyed a decorated wrestling career, winning six National Championships, along with a Tallin Open title (2023) and a Pan-American title (2024); and

WHEREAS, For her many achievements, Ava Guilmette has garnered a top 20 national ranking in her weight class, according to USA Wrestling, FloWrestling, and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum; and

WHEREAS, The athletic talent displayed by this scholar-athlete is due, in great part, to the efforts of a great team of coaches and skilled and inspirational tutors who are respected for their ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, In a sport, such as wrestling, which demands athletic prowess, speed, and agility, Head Coach Dan Palmerino and Assistant Coach Antonio Lomascolo 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, In light of her recent accomplishments, Ava Guilmette was recognized as Athlete of the Year for 2025-2026 by the Times Union

newspaper; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Ava Guilmette of Shenendehowa High School upon the occasion of capturing the 2026 NYSPHSAA Girls Wrestling Championship title in the 165-pound Division on February 26, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ava Guilmette, Head Coach Dan Palmerino, Assistant Coach Antonio Lomascolo, Athletic Director Lucas LaBarre, Principal Ron Agostinoni, and Superintendent Dr. Cecily Wilson-Turner.