

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating John Orozco upon the occasion of winning the United States Men's Gymnastics Championship

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those esteemed individuals who distinguish themselves through outstanding achievements in national athletic competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate John Orozco upon the occasion of winning the United States Men's Gymnastics Championship on Saturday, June 9, 2012, in St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, John Orozco, 19, who grew up in the Harding Park section of the Bronx, New York, scored 15.500 points on his floor exercise for a two-day combined score of 184.850 in the all-around; he finished just 0.05 of a point ahead of the reigning champion, Danell Leyva, the man he had trailed in the all-around for most of the competition; and

WHEREAS, Of the 40 men who competed at nationals, only 15 will advance to the Olympic trials that begin on June 28, 2012, in San Jose, California; five of those individuals will make the Olympic team; and

WHEREAS, Nicknamed the Silent Ninja, John Orozco, who was fifth in the all-around at the world championships last year, is on track to be one of those gymnasts; to get to this point, he went through the national competition without betraying much emotion, staying focused as he moved from event to event; and

WHEREAS, Immediately after winning the championship, John Orozco looked into the crowd to find his parents, Damaris and Will, who already had tears of joy; and

WHEREAS, The youngest of five children, John Orozco told the crowd that he was glad he could win the title for his parents, especially his mother, who had recently been ill; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, John Orozco won the Junior Visa U.S. National Championships, and became the youngest male gymnast to qualify for the elite finals; he earned a place on the Junior National Team, representing the USA in the Pan-American Games as an alternate and went on to compete at the Pacific Rim Championships in 2008 and 2010, helping the team to gold medals both times; and

WHEREAS, At the 2010 Pacific Rim Championships in Melbourne, Australia, John Orozco also won gold medals in the All-Around and Horizontal Bar and silver medals on the pommel horse, still rings and parallel bars; and

WHEREAS, A gifted athlete, John Orozco has become a role model in society as well as the sport of gymnastics; his character and achievements stand as a sterling example and inspiration to all who would aspire to success; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate John Orozco upon the occasion of winning the United States Men's Gymnastics Championship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John Orozco.