

Senate Resolution No. 2125

BY: Senator LITTLE

COMMEMORATING the 50th Anniversary of the Lake
Placid Horse Shows on June 30, 2019

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to those establishments whose commitment and creative talents contribute to recreational American tradition and the entertainment of their community and the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Lake Placid Horse Shows to be celebrated at its Grand Prix of Lake Placid on Sunday, June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, The Lake Placid Horse Shows, two of the nation's premier Hunter and Show Jumping competitions, feature ten days of world-class competition around the Fourth of July holiday; and

WHEREAS, For the past 50 years, the Lake Placid Horse Shows have brought the nation's top show jumping horses and riders to the beautiful Adirondacks and historic Olympic town of Lake Placid, New York; and

WHEREAS, After fabulous growth in the late 1970s, the shows overcame much adversity in the mid-1980s, and today, Lake Placid is recognized as one of the premier stops on the nation's hunter-jumper horse show circuit; and

WHEREAS, Lake Placid's start as a horse show host came in the early 1930s, when the Lake Placid Riding Club sponsored gymkhanas, races and summer meets; these early shows were elegant, highly competitive and the social event of the celebrity calendar; and

WHEREAS, Lake Placid stopped hosting horse shows during World War II, and did not host a horse show again until the summer of 1970, when the first of the current version of the Lake Placid Horse Shows was held; and

WHEREAS, This initial Token Horse Show was held as a preliminary step towards accreditation with the American Horse Shows Association (AHSA), and was hosted by the East Kiln Pony Club of Ausable Forks at Ruth Newberry's farm; and

WHEREAS, The following year, with the help of her daughter, Jessica, a three time Olympic dressage rider, Ruth Newberry approached the United States Equestrian Team's top riders and asked them to come to Lake Placid; and

WHEREAS, Personally telephoning Olympians Frank and Mary Chapot, George Morris and Bill Steinkraus, Ruth Newberry convinced them, and other noted riders, to bring what amounted to 145 of the best horses in

the country to the first official Lake Placid Horse Show; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Lake Placid Horse Shows boast a world-class venue with state-of-the-art footing set in an unrivaled vacation-like setting, making it a favorite stop for competitors and families alike; top barns regularly include the Lake Placid Horse Shows as a featured stop on their competition calendar; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the Lake Placid Horse Shows have been recognized by the National Show Hunter Hall of Fame as one of the country's Top Ten Horse Shows; this year, the US Equestrian Federation has designated the Lake Placid Horse Shows as an elite "USEF Heritage Competition"; and

WHEREAS, The Lake Placid Horse Shows has created a show jumping tradition which has attracted the attention and admiration of virtually everyone in the show jumping world; it has truly earned its moniker of "the best two weeks of a horseman's summer"; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when establishments of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Lake Placid Horse Shows on June 30, 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Lake Placid Horse Shows.