

BY: Senator CARLUCCI

COMMENDING Special Olympics New York upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary on March 6, 2020

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that the quality and character of life in this great Empire State is greatly enriched by the faithful and diligent work of those organizations which serve to meet the special needs of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Special Olympics New York upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary on Friday, March 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, For five decades, Special Olympics New York has provided inclusive opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities to compete in Olympic-style, coached sports, helping them to stay active for life, achieve goals at local and international contests, and taste victory and overcome defeat; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics New York is the largest state chapter in the country and among the largest in the world; this vital nonprofit organization serves more than 67,000 athletes, children, youth and adults with intellectual differences, statewide, providing them with an opportunity to compete in 22 sports; and

WHEREAS, In addition to these athletes and their loved ones statewide, the Special Olympics New York family includes more than 40,000 dedicated volunteers and more than 8,000 students in more than 220 Unified Champion Schools, where teams of students both with and without intellectual disabilities play competitive, interscholastic Unified Sports; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, Special Olympics New York frequently reviews its sports programs, ensuring every aspiring athlete has an opportunity to excel; continues its efforts to raise engagement, awareness and understanding of Special Olympics New York: significantly growing the Unified Sports movement in New York schools and communities; and advancing a comprehensive health agenda to ensure New Yorkers with intellectual differences have access to quality healthcare; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those organizations which enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Special Olympics New York upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary on March 6, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Special Olympics New York.