

**BY:** Senator PALUMBO

**CONGRATULATING** the Southold High School Robotics Team RICE 870 upon the occasion of capturing two Long Island Regional Championships

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend and pay tribute to those who, by achieving outstanding success in their educational endeavors and competitions, have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** It is also the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the dedication and commitment of our young people who distinguish themselves through excellence in scholastic competition; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Southold High School Robotics Team RICE 870 upon the occasion of capturing two Long Island Regional Championships at Hofstra University's David S. Mack Sports and Exhibition Center; and

**WHEREAS,** Team RICE, an acronym which stands for the team motto of respect, integrity, compassion, equity, became the first Long Island student robotics team to earn successive double regional titles; the team also received the Autonomous Award in both competitions for how its robot operated under computer control; and

**WHEREAS,** Team RICE went 16-0 in the first regional competition which included 39 teams and was held March 22-23, 2022, before going 18-0 in the second regional involving 41 teams, held March 25-26, 2022; and

**WHEREAS,** These extraordinary wins earned Team RICE an invitation to compete in the FIRST Championships at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas, where they made it to the quarterfinals and ended their season with an impressive record of 54-8, ranking them amongst the top one percent of all robots in the world; and

**WHEREAS,** Robotics classes teach students various skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, communication, leadership and ownership, all of which have led the Southold High School Robotics Team to a high level of success; and

**WHEREAS,** Co-advisors Bob Gammon and Christine Schade have done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the team members toward their goals; and

**WHEREAS,** The members of the Southold High School Robotics Team RICE 870 are loyally and enthusiastically supported by their school, family, friends and the community at large; and

**WHEREAS,** Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, these students now stand honorably, with just pride in their

accomplishments and in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided by their teachers, coaches and parents; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Southold High School Robotics Team RICE 870 upon the occasion of capturing two Long Island Regional Championships; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Southold High School Robotics Team RICE 870: Angelina Bokina, Tom Cardi, Kenny Lin, Ryan Palumbo, Matthew Schill, Ava Silvestro, Jacob Volosik, Noah Berry, Declan Crowley (Grnpt), Bobby Doering, Danna Duarte, Brendan Kilcommons, Sofia Bartolani, Harrison Craigue, Amy Estrada, Sofia Gillan, Caige Kaessinger, Flynn Klipstein, Ava Rose, Brian Schill, Noah Ganguzza (Grnpt), Kimberly Gregorio, William Helinski, Brae Iglesias (Grnpt), and Bryce Keels; and to Co-advisors Bob Gammon and Christine Schade.