Senate Resolution No. 1320

BY: Senator MURRAY

HONORING Paul Longo upon the occasion of his retirement after 31 years of distinguished service to the William Floyd High School football team

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Paul Longo upon the occasion of his retirement after 31 years of distinguished service to the William Floyd High School football team; and

WHEREAS, For the past 31 years, Paul Longo rendered faithful, conscientious, and valuable service to the William Floyd High School football team, earning the admiration, esteem, and affection of students, parents, colleagues, and fellow coaches; and

WHEREAS, Paul Longo is recognized for transforming the William Floyd High School football team into a prepared and respected model for other teams throughout Suffolk County and the greater Long Island community; and

WHEREAS, Prior to Paul Longo leading the William Floyd High School football team in 1995, the team had never won a playoff game; in Paul Longo's 31 years of service, the team had 27 winning seasons, participated in the Long Island Championship 12 times, and won the Long Island Championship five times; and

WHEREAS, Motivated to change the football culture in his school district, Paul Longo took a "bottom up" approach to improving his team, dedicating time and effort to teaching foundations to students starting in fifth grade through high school; and

WHEREAS, Paul Longo was determined to prepare his student athletes for anything that may happen on the field, and he often taught his team to study the tactics and skills of other high school and college programs; and

WHEREAS, In addition to being an inspiration to athletes on his team, Paul Longo was a role model for other coaches in Suffolk County and the greater Long Island community; and

WHEREAS, Paul Longo leaves the William Floyd High School football team with a 253-67 record, a 0.791 winning percentage, 15 Suffolk Division I titles, a Suffolk County-record 42-game winning streak, and three Rutgers Trophies, which are given to Suffolk County's most outstanding team; and

WHEREAS, Beyond Paul Longo's numerous records and achievements, his greatest accomplishment has been inspiring and impacting the countless students that played under his leadership; and

WHEREAS, The drive, dedication, and heart of Paul Longo fostered an environment and culture where the William Floyd High School football team flourished and became a record-breaking powerhouse in the Long Island high school football community; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Paul Longo upon the occasion of his retirement after 31 years of distinguished service to the William Floyd High School football team; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Paul Longo.