Senate Resolution No. 2151

BY: Senator RHOADS

HONORING KaiLee Smith upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the New York State Citizenship Award

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor the young adults of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor KaiLee Smith upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the New York State Citizenship Award, to be celebrated at a ceremony on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at Farmingdale High School; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Citizenship Award is bestowed upon students who embody the highest principles of civic responsibility, integrity, and dedication to the common good, serving as role models who strengthen the fabric of their communities through their actions and example; and

WHEREAS, True citizenship is demonstrated not only through academic success, but through a steadfast commitment to service, ethical leadership, and an unwavering sense of responsibility toward others; and

WHEREAS, KaiLee Smith has exemplified these ideals through her consistent demonstration of respect, accountability, and compassion, reflecting the core values of engaged and responsible citizenship; and

WHEREAS, KaiLee Smith is an intelligent, driven, and compassionate scholar, student athlete, and leader in her senior year at Farmingdale High School in Farmingdale, New York; and

WHEREAS, At Farmingdale High School, KaiLee Smith has pushed herself academically with her coursework, taking both Advanced Placement courses and college-level courses, including AP Research, AP World History, College Economics, College Calculus, and College Human Biology; despite her heavy courseload, this remarkable scholar has maintained a GPA of 4.0; and

WHEREAS, KaiLee Smith's impressive academic record has earned her membership in several honor societies, including National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and Science National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Outside of the classroom, KaiLee Smith has been an athlete on several Farmingdale High School varsity teams, including the cross country team and winter track and field team since freshman year, and the lacrosse team since sophomore year; KaiLee Smith's impressive sportsmanship and leadership skills have earned her the role of captain on all three teams; and

WHEREAS, Filled with a desire to stay involved, KaiLee Smith is a member of several clubs and organizations at Farmingdale High School, including the Varsity Leaders Club, Student Activities Club, Student Council Class of 2026, and P.A.W.S. Club; each of these organizations have given KaiLee Smith valuable experience in event planning, community engagement, and fundraising; and

WHEREAS, A proven leader and role model, this extraordinary young woman is being recognized not only for her academic and extracurricular achievement, but also for the profound impact she has had on Farmingdale High School and her local community; and

WHEREAS, KaiLee Smith has a passion for giving back to her community, and she volunteers through programs with Make "Cents" Out of Breast Cancer, the Triple P Program, Inspiration Day, and Kids Need More; and

WHEREAS, Make "Cents" Out of Breast Cancer is a program that was created in honor of KaiLee Smith's mother's survivorship against stage III breast cancer; as liaison for this organization, KaiLee Smith has successfully led and organized "Pink Out Day" events throughout Farmingdale School District, increased community participation from 400 individuals to 5,000, and assisted in raising over $90,000 for the organization, which has been donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation; and

WHEREAS, To gain real-world experience, KaiLee Smith has worked at Ralph's Famous Italian Ices in Farmingdale, New York, and has worked independently as a babysitter and lacrosse coach, where she gets to work with young kids through fun, engaging, and safe activities; and

WHEREAS, The experience that KaiLee Smith has gathered throughout her time at Farmingdale High School has shaped her to be a well-rounded and accomplished individual; her commitments and desire to involve herself throughout her community have rightfully earned her the New York State Citizenship Award; and

WHEREAS, As KaiLee Smith looks forward to her next chapter, she is sure to continue fostering her leadership skills, advancing her achievements, and making a difference in her community; and

WHEREAS, Her example affirms that responsible citizenship is a lifelong endeavor, one that extends beyond the classroom and into every aspect of personal and professional life; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and purposeful determination, this scholar now stands honorably, with just pride in her accomplishments and in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided by her teachers, mentors, and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor KaiLee Smith upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of

the New York State Citizenship Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to KaiLee Smith.