

Assembly Resolution No. 1275

BY: M. of A. Braunstein

HONORING Coach Ron Naclerio upon the occasion of becoming the winningest boys high school basketball coach in New York State history, and for his distinguished service and enduring dedication to the youth of the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize individuals whose professional achievements and personal dedication have brought distinction and honor to the people of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Ron Naclerio has long been regarded as a legendary figure in high school basketball, particularly within the Borough of Queens, a region renowned for its rich basketball tradition; and

WHEREAS, On Friday, January 30, 2026, Ron Naclerio achieved a historic milestone by becoming the winningest boys high school basketball coach in New York State history, securing his 973rd career victory as head coach of Benjamin N. Cardozo High School in Bayside with a decisive 69-46 win over Julia Richman High School of Manhattan; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable achievement surpassed the previous record held by another distinguished Queens coach, further cementing Ron Naclerio's place in New York's storied basketball legacy; and

WHEREAS, Ron Naclerio's extraordinary 51-year coaching career has been defined by unwavering commitment, leadership, and excellence, all of which have been devoted to the student-athletes of Benjamin N. Cardozo High School; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his coaching career, Ron Naclerio demonstrated his athletic talents as a professional baseball player within the Chicago White Sox organization until his playing career was curtailed by injury; and

WHEREAS, Over the decades, Ron Naclerio has guided countless young athletes, including four who advanced to the National Basketball Association: Duane Causwell, Rafer Alston, Royal Ivey, and James Southerland; and

WHEREAS, His teams have achieved significant success under his leadership, including New York City championships in 1999 and 2014, as well as appearances in the New York State tournament; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the sport, Ron Naclerio was inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame in 2024 and is slated to be honored by the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Beyond wins and accolades, Ron Naclerio has served as a

mentor, role model, and enduring presence in the lives of generations of student-athletes, fostering discipline, teamwork, and perseverance both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, His lifelong dedication to the game of basketball and to the development of young people reflects the very best values of sport and education in the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and commend Ron Naclerio upon the occasion of becoming the winningest boys high school basketball coach in New York State history, recognizing his extraordinary career and lasting impact on student athletes and the broader community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Coach Ron Naclerio.