

2013-J530

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Alec Urbach, of Roslyn Heights, New York, upon the occasion of his designation as a Distinguished Finalist in the 18th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and nation; and

WHEREAS, Alec Urbach has distinguished himself as a young man of superlative ability, establishing a high standard of community service, purposefulness of life, and sense of responsibility rarely achieved in youthful years; and

WHEREAS, Alec Urbach, 17, of Roslyn Heights, New York, and a senior at Long Island High School for the Arts in Syosset, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by being named a 2013 Prudential Spirit of Community Distinguished Finalist; and

WHEREAS, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), are designed to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to others, and to encourage all young Americans to contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, As a Distinguished Finalist, Alec Urbach will receive an engraved bronze medallion; and

WHEREAS, Alec Urbach founded "Alec's Animated Schoolhouse" in 2009, a program for which he writes, animates, and produces math, science and hygiene lessons for children in developing countries through video and educational comic books; and

WHEREAS, Alec Urbach, whose nonprofit organization "Giving from the Ground Up" also opened the first government-funded science elementary

schools in Ghana, is currently reaching nearly 250,000 children in Ghana, Botswana and Togo with his educational program; and

WHEREAS, The success of the State of New York, the strength of our communities, and the vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Alec Urbach, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Alec Urbach, commending him for his outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community service and recognizing the value of his labors and the promise of his future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, with praise and pride, to commend Alec Urbach for his achievements and to extend to him the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being, fully confident of his response to the challenges of a promising future and appreciative of the model he represents for all young people of the Empire State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Alec Urbach.