

2013-J2700

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood, upon the occasion of capturing the top team prize in the prestigious 2013 Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the youth 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 Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood upon the occasion of capturing the top team prize in the prestigious Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology; and

WHEREAS, Seniors at George W. Hewlett High School in Hewlett, New York, Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood conducted their award-winning research in the school's science lab, under the guidance of teacher Terrence Bissoondial; and

WHEREAS, These three exceptional scholars will share a scholarship for their research project, which found that plants with multiple copies of a gene that helps with ozone tolerance are more resistant to environmental impacts, findings which have tremendous implications for agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood bested more than 2,440 of the nation's most talented high school students to claim the grand prize; in addition to their outstanding research, these young scientists were also noted by competition judges for their remarkable levels of cooperation, dedication and passion to achieve; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood 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, mentors, and parents; and

WHEREAS, Young women of singular distinction and superlative ability, Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood represent the best development of the potential which is inherent in our most precious resource, our youth; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when young people 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 Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood upon the occasion of capturing the top team prize at the 2013 Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, and to wish them success in all of their future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Priyanka Wadgaonkar, JiaWen Pei, and Zainab Mahmood.