

## 2013-J3436

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Vallo Transportation Ltd. in recognition of its No Bullying Zone initiative created to heighten anti-bullying awareness for parents, students and employees

WHEREAS, It is important to protect and to safeguard school children of the State of New York, and, through the recognition of the serious issues that face them each day, offer our children an environment that is safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend Vallo Transportation Ltd. in recognition of its No Bullying Zone initiative created to heighten anti-bullying awareness for parents, students and employees; and

WHEREAS, Vallo Transportation, an independent school bus company located in Whitestone, New York, has taken extra measures to create awareness of its new No Bullying Zone program to emphasize the company takes bullying seriously and wants to be part of the solution to stop this negative behavior; and

WHEREAS, This vital campaign helps to reinforce the importance of how all members of the community can work together and help create a positive experience for students during the school year; as the 2014 year kicks off, Vallo Transportation has focused its efforts on combating bullying in schools; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing training is essential, all Vallo Transportation employees are required to participate in an extensive teaching session which outlines how to recognize bullying behavior, how to properly intervene, and how to create a supportive school bus climate; and

WHEREAS, As a bus company that interacts daily with the community and students, Vallo Transportation has taken the vital steps to elevate anti-bullying awareness, ensuring all students feel safe when traveling

on their buses; and

WHEREAS, As part of this initiative, parents were provided with anti-bullying information including how to recognize the warning signs, the effects of bullying and where to go for help; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Vallo Transportation distributed thousands of No Bullying Bookmarks to students who ride with them; they were asked to make a pledge, which is featured on the bookmark, to respect each other, to refrain from bullying behavior and to speak up to help a classmate if he or she is being bullied; and

WHEREAS, Under the direction of President Linda DeSabato, Vallo Transportation provides school-bus service for hundreds of children in Queens and Manhattan, New York; the company, which specializes in service to the Bronx High School of Science, also provides charter service for field trips, community groups, high school sports and special events; and

WHEREAS, Vallo Transportation has an outstanding safety record, on-time performance of nearly 98 percent, superior maintenance and training programs and history of community involvement; this exceptional reputation earned Vallo the New York State Bus Contractors Association's 2010 Contractor of the Year Award; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Vallo Transportation Ltd. in recognition of its No Bullying Zone initiative created to heighten anti-bullying awareness for parents, students and employees; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Linda DeSabato, President, Vallo Transportation Ltd.