

2013-J3705

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Jessica Penna, of Hampton Bays, New York, upon the occasion of her designation as a Distinguished Finalist in the 19th 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, Jessica Penna has distinguished herself as a young woman of superlative ability, establishing a high standard of community service, purposefulness of life, and sense of responsibility rarely achieved in youthful years; and

WHEREAS, Jessica Penna, 18, of Hampton Bays, New York, and a senior at St. Anthony's High School, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by being named a 2014 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, Jessica Penna will receive an engraved bronze medallion; and

WHEREAS, Jessica Penna founded the first ever school-based club for "Kids Stock the House," an organization which supports Ronald McDonald Houses; as President of the 75-member club, Jessica has organized a number of fundraising activities which have raised more than \$25,000 to support the local Ronald McDonald House and encouraged other schools to get involved; 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 Jessica Penna, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, with praise and pride, to commend Jessica Penna for her achievements and to extend to her the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being, fully confident of her response to the challenges of a promising future and appreciative of the model she 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 Jessica Penna.