

## 2013-K997

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Aidan Kelly upon being chosen for the United States men's luge team at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to extend its full recognition and grateful tribute to the athletes of New York State who have dedicated their purposeful lives to athletic achievement and proudly represented their great State and Nation in international sports competition; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young adults of this State, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to join the community of West Islip, New York, in honoring Aidan Kelly upon being chosen for the United States men's luge team at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia; and

WHEREAS, Aidan Kelly has suffered countless injuries and has overcome numerous obstacles; attending West Islip High School, he did not graduate from the school but at age 15, he moved away from his family to Lake Placid where it was all for the love of the sport luge racing, an extreme form of sled racing; and

WHEREAS, Aidan Kelly's sacrifices were rewarded on Saturday, December 14, 2013, after his World Cup results in Park City, Utah; he qualified as one of 10 lugers who will represent the United States in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia; and

WHEREAS, Aidan Kelly's journey began at the age of 12, at Bald Hill in

Farmingville, New York, where he completed the slalom course on a wheeled sled and five months later, he received an invitation to attend a screening camp in Lake Placid; he did well on the Olympic ice and was asked to become a member of the "D" Team of the United States National Junior Luge Development team; and

WHEREAS, As a member of the "D" Team, Aidan Kelly traveled to the United States Olympic track in Salt Lake City and competed in the Youth National Championships; and

WHEREAS, A gifted athlete, Aidan Kelly's character and achievements stand as a sterling example and inspiration to all who would aspire to such extraordinary success; and

WHEREAS, Many will only dream of competing in international sports competition; this young, gifted athlete from the great State of New York, through his hard work and tenacious spirit, has made that vision a reality, and will proudly represent his country in competition among the world's finest athletes, an honor that gives just cause for his family, community and State to be exceedingly proud of his achievements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Aidan Kelly upon being chosen for the United States men's luge team at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Aidan Kelly.