

2013-J4685

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring student-athlete Stefanie Dolson upon the occasion of being named the 2014 Women's Basketball Coaches Association Division I Defensive Player of the Year

WHEREAS, Excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those young people within the State of New York who, by achieving outstanding success in athletic competition, have inspired and brought pride to their school and community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Stefanie Dolson upon the occasion of being named the 2014 Women's Basketball Coaches Association Division I Defensive Player of the Year; she was recognized at the fourth annual WBCA Awards on Monday, April 7, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Defensive Player of the Year Award honors the best defensive collegiate Division I women's player as chosen by its selection committee; and

WHEREAS, A native of Port Jervis, New York, Stefanie Dolson is the daughter of Krystal and Steve Dolson; a senior center for the University of Connecticut (UConn) Huskies, she is the first player from her school to receive this prestigious award since its inception in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Stefanie Dolson has completed an outstanding season in which she led the American Athletic Conference in defensive rebounding with 7.1 rebounds per game, with a total average of 9.1 rebounds per game; and

WHEREAS, Thanks in part to Stefanie Dolson's tremendous efforts, the

UConn Huskies led all of Division I women's basketball in scoring defense, allowing an impressive 47.3 points per game throughout the season; she has also been a strong contributor to a Huskies team that has led the nation in blocked shots per game, and set the NCAA single-season record for most blocks in a season; her 90 blocks are the second highest on the team and third highest in school history; and

WHEREAS, Stefanie Dolson is also just the fifth player in UConn history to record 1,000 career points and 1,000 career rebounds; in addition, she accomplished the school's second-ever triple double and is also the second UConn player to be a four-time conference All-Tournament selection; and

WHEREAS, Before starting her college career, Stefanie Dolson led Minisink Valley High School to four consecutive NYSPHAA Section 9 Championships and was named a 2009-10 McDonald's All American; in addition, she has twice won gold medals as part of the United States National Team; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her distinguished basketball career, Stefanie Dolson has been loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, this esteemed young woman now stands honorably, with just pride in her accomplishments and in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided by her teachers, coaches and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor student-athlete Stefanie Dolson upon the occasion of being named the 2014 WBCA Division I Defensive Player of the Year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Stefanie Dolson.