

## 2013-J5580

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring CJ Theiss upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a 2014 Youth Empowerment Award by the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary women it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor CJ Theiss upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a 2014 Youth Empowerment Award by the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network, to be celebrated at its 16th Anniversary Gala Celebration, A Breakfast at Tiffany's GLSEN Formal Affair, on Friday, June 13, 2014, at the Washington Park Lakehouse, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1990, the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN) has worked to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression; as a local chapter, GLSEN focuses its efforts on the youth and educators of the eight counties surrounding the Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Albany, New York, CJ Theiss is a Health Educator at Shaker Junior High School; she was nominated for this auspicious award by her Principal Russ Moore, for having helped their students at Shaker Junior High School to start a Gay Straight Alliance Club this past school year; and

WHEREAS, With the junior high years being extremely difficult for

kids, CJ Theiss recognizes the need to assist students with working through their questions pertaining to sexuality and sexual identity in a manner that is informative, supportive, non-judgmental and enlightening; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, CJ Theiss has reached out to GLSEN for support and inclusive curriculum to help educate the Shaker Junior High School community; she has since become a resource herself and has helped other local educators in supporting youth within schools in other districts; and

WHEREAS, CJ Theiss has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of Shaker Junior High School, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for her impressive dedication to others; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor CJ Theiss upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a 2014 Youth Empowerment Award by the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to CJ Theiss.