2015-J340

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Samuel Epstein of John F. Kennedy High School upon the occasion of being named a Finalist in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend and pay tribute to those who, by achieving outstanding success in their educational and scientific endeavors, have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State; and

WHEREAS, It is also the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the dedication and commitment of our young people who distinguish themselves through excellence in science competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Samuel Epstein of John F. Kennedy High School upon the occasion of being named a Finalist in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search; he will be joining 35 other students from across the country to compete for the Grand Prize; and

WHEREAS, The finalists will compete in Washington D.C. March 5-11, 2015; while there, the students will undergo a rigorous judging process, talk with leading scientists, display their research to the public at the National Geographic Society, and meet with national leaders; and

WHEREAS, Once known as the Westinghouse competition, the Intel Science Talent Search is the oldest of its type in the nation, and is the country's most prestigious science scholarship competition; and

WHEREAS, For more than 60 years, the Intel Science Talent Search has recognized and rewarded the country's top young science students; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, this competition has gained broad acclaim in the academic and scientific communities; educators, scientists, engineers and journalists throughout the United States have enthusiastically

supported this annual event; and

WHEREAS, Six former Intel Science Talent Search competitors have gone on to win the prestigious Nobel Prize; and

WHEREAS, The Intel Science Talent Search was created to encourage high school seniors who demonstrate exceptional ability in science, math and engineering through individual research projects; and

WHEREAS, Colleges and universities regard the Intel Science Talent Search finalist award to be evidence of exceptional scientific promise; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Epstein, a student at John F. Kennedy High School, was recently named a finalist in the annual Intel Science Talent Search which awards scholarships to recognize the outstanding science research of high school seniors; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Epstein's 2015 Intel Science Talent Search project was entitled, "The Effects of the Modulation of TOR Signaling and Microbial Exposure on Feeding Behavior in Drosophila melanogaster"; his research looked at how microbes, both good and bad, might affect the daily diet of the fruit fly, which has a life span of 10 days on average; he wanted to see whether certain microbes increased or decreased appetite, and whether reduced nutritional intake affected longevity; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Epstein's results indicated that microbes introduced in the TOR pathway, from pathogens to probiotics, did affect appetite in fruit flies; the less the fruit flies ingested, the longer they lived; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate to celebrate and applaud the individual accomplishments of remarkable students such as Samuel Epstein in this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Samuel Epstein for his latest achievement, and for his noteworthy educational and scientific endeavors and achievements; his outstanding performance has clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a

tradition of his school and community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Samuel Epstein of John F. Kennedy High School upon the occasion of being named a Finalist in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Samuel Epstein.