

2015-J3277

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Coach Tom Coughlin upon the occasion of his retirement after 12 distinguished seasons with the New York Giants Football Team

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

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of those outstanding professional coaches, whose dedication and achievements have been an inspiration to citizens of the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concerns, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Head Coach Tom Coughlin upon the occasion of his retirement after 12 distinguished seasons with the New York Giants Football Team; he officially announced his retirement on Monday, January 4, 2016; and

WHEREAS, A native of Waterloo, New York, Tom Coughlin graduated from Waterloo High School in 1964, where he was an outstanding student-athlete playing varsity football and still holds his school's single season record for touchdowns scored; and

WHEREAS, Tom Coughlin continued his playing career at Syracuse University where he started as a wingback on the football team; in 1967, he set the university's single-season pass receiving record, and was presented with Syracuse's Orange Key Award as the school's most outstanding scholar-athlete; and

WHEREAS, After college, Tom Coughlin began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Syracuse in 1969; he was then hired for his first head coaching job at the Rochester Institute of Technology where he

served from 1970 to 1973, before returning to his alma mater as the quarterbacks and offensive backfield coach; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Tom Coughlin became the offensive coordinator at Boston College where he helped the team win its first bowl game, as well as the Lambert-Meadowlands Trophy in 1983; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed leader entered the coaching ranks of the National Football League in 1984 as the wide receivers coach of the Philadelphia Eagles; he also served in coaching capacities for the Green Bay Packers, and helped the New York Giants achieve their second Super Bowl victory as an assistant coach; and

WHEREAS, After leaving the NFL to become head coach of Boston College in 1991, Tom Coughlin transformed the school's football program into a Top 20 team, capping his college career with a win over top ranked Notre Dame and a victory over Virginia in the Carquest Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Tom Coughlin's success at Boston College led to his being named the first head coach of the National Football League's Jacksonville Jaguars; during his eight seasons with the team, he helped the Jaguars become the most successful expansion club in NFL history and led them to two AFC Championship games; he was also named the 1996 NFL Coach of the Year by United Press International; and

WHEREAS, On January 6, 2004, Tom Coughlin was named the 16th Head Coach of the New York Giants; he compiled records of 6-10, 11-5, and 8-8 in his first three regular seasons, and helped his team reach the play-offs in both 2005 and 2006; and

WHEREAS, Coach Tom Coughlin's underdog New York Giants were victorious over the previously undefeated New England Patriots by a score of 17-14 in Super Bowl XLII to become the Champions of the National Football League; it was Coach Coughlin's first Super Bowl win; and

WHEREAS, Four years later, Tom Coughlin attained his second NFL Championship as Head Coach by guiding the Giants to an exciting 21-17 triumph in their rematch against the New England Patriots at Super Bowl

XLVI; and

WHEREAS, Over his illustrious 18 year career as an NFL Head Coach, Tom Coughlin amassed an impressive 182 victories, including 110 wins leading the New York Giants; he is ranked 12th on the all-time regular season victories list with 172 games won; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his devoted wife of more than 40 years, Judy; their four children, Keli (Chris), Katie (Chris), Brian (Susan), and Tim (Andrea); and ten grandchildren, Emma Rose, Dylan, Shea, Cooper, Caroline May, Marin Elizabeth, Wesley, Brennon, Clara Amelia and Walker, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life, and rejoice in all of his successes and achievements; and

WHEREAS, Tom Coughlin's positive demeanor, selfless commitment, and caring concern have contributed to his enduring success as a coach and mentor, earning him the just respect and admiration of his community, his peers, and the athletes he has so ably coached; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Coach Tom Coughlin upon the occasion of his retirement after 12 distinguished seasons with the New York Giants Football Team, and to wish him all the best in his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Coach Tom Coughlin.