

## 2015-J4259

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Paul Rickard upon the occasion of his induction into the 2015 SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor those individuals whose exceptional athletic prowess leaves an enduring legacy in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Paul Rickard upon the occasion of his induction into the 2015 SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame, which was celebrated at a ceremony held on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at Kuhl's Highland House, Middletown, New York; and

WHEREAS, The SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes those distinguished individuals, who, through outstanding achievement in athletics or service, have made lasting contributions to its sports program and the overall community; and

WHEREAS, For the past 35 years, Paul Rickard has been a prominent fixture at SUNY Orange and has served as both a professor and a coach; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed educator and sports mentor has taught mathematics since 1980, and has coached the men's basketball team for 25 years, guiding the Colts to 323 wins and a multitude of regional and conference championships; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Coach Paul Rickard led the SUNY Orange Colts to a 23-8 record, a district championship and the program's first ever appearance in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II National Championship Tournament; he was also named the 2006 NJCAA Division II Coach of the Year in District 9; and

WHEREAS, Under Coach Paul Rickard's illustrious tenure, his teams have

won the Region XV Sportsmanship Award numerous times, and many of his players have been named to All-Conference, All-Region and All-American teams; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Paul Rickard served as coach of the SUNY Orange Golf Team for 32 years, leading his players to many trips to the National Golf Tournament until his retirement in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Coaches like Paul Rickard provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of student-athletes in their athletic journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, Paul Rickard has clearly been an inspiration to the youth of SUNY Orange, as well as to the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Paul Rickard has clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of his school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Paul Rickard upon the occasion of his induction into the 2015 SUNY Orange Colt Athletic Hall of Fame; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Paul Rickard.