

2015-J4669

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Amy Rankin upon the occasion of her designation as a 2016 Inductee into the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction, on May 6, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary careers, accomplishments, and purposeful lives of service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Amy Rankin upon the occasion of her designation as a 2016 Inductee into the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction, to be celebrated at an Induction Ceremony on Friday, May 6, 2016, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction was established in 2012, by the Auburn Education Foundation to recognize, honor and celebrate graduates who have distinguished themselves through outstanding academic, professional, or civic achievements and to inspire current students to pursue a path towards personal success; and

WHEREAS, A woman of singular merit, Amy Rankin, Auburn High Class of 1999, has continually demonstrated tremendous competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in her unwavering service to both her community and her profession and consequently has been selected for this most prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, A respected field hockey player, Amy Rankin graduated from Auburn High School; after graduating, she continued playing field hockey at Dickinson College where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology; and

WHEREAS, As a senior, Amy Rankin was the recipient of the Most

Improved Player Award for her tireless commitment to her sport; and
WHEREAS, After college, Amy Rankin moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where she served as a special education teacher; unfortunately, she was critically injured in a tragic accident; and

WHEREAS, After spending 33 days in a coma, Amy Rankin regained consciousness; however, she remained in a critical state, and the doctors did not give much hope for any improvement in her condition; and
WHEREAS, Her doctors obviously underestimated her strength, determination and never-give-up attitude because Amy Rankin proved the doctors wrong; although her recovery was not easy, she was determined as she set goals for herself; and

WHEREAS, More than 100 days after the accident, Amy Rankin's parents were able to move her to The Centers at St. Camillus, a rehabilitation center in Syracuse, New York; after five months of intense therapy, Amy walked out of the center and returned to her home in Auburn where she continued to receive outpatient physical and speech therapy; and

WHEREAS, Amy Rankin continues to defy her original prognosis by volunteering her time and energy at Meals On Wheels and working with Choices for Change, a day program for traumatically brain injured individuals; and

WHEREAS, In 2012, Amy Rankin's book, **NOBODY THOUGHT I COULD DO IT, BUT I SHOWED THEM AND SO CAN YOU!** was published; the book helped Amy in her recovery efforts and serves as an inspiration for others suffering from a traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Amy Rankin has shared her story at the New York State TBI Convention in Syracuse and in Albany and has spoken at the Onondaga Community College TBI Workshop; and

WHEREAS, In honor of her legacy and her perseverance, Amy Rankin's field hockey jersey at Dickinson College has been retired and the Most Improved Player Award has been renamed the Amy Rankin Award; and
WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individ-

uals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Amy Rankin upon the occasion of her designation as a 2016 Inductee into the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction, on May 6, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Amy Rankin.