

2017-J1520

Senate Resolution No. 1520

BY: Senator PHILLIPS

COMMENDING Samantha Kramer upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Jewish Community Relations Council at the Annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration on April 27, 2017

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those young people within the great Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who serve as role models for their peers; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Samantha Kramer upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Jewish Community Relations Council at the Annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration to be held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York; and

WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance Day, known in Hebrew as Yom HaShoah, is a day set aside for remembering the victims of the Holocaust and for reminding New Yorkers, all Americans, and people around the world of what can happen to civilized people when bigotry, hatred and indifference reign; and

WHEREAS, At this auspicious event, Samantha Kramer will be recognized for her diligent work in creating a more civil society for the citizens of not only Nassau County, but the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Samantha Kramer, a student at Great Neck North High School, in Great Neck, New York, has an uncanny way of putting others at ease; whether she is spending time with her aunt who is battling terminal cancer or supporting a disabled tenth grader as he participates in a school wide, community building program, her positive, pleasant, and calming disposition make them completely comfortable; and

WHEREAS, Samantha Kramer gives of her time to Challenge Day, an all-day event which promotes empathy, connection, and positive change in school environments for sophomores; she enjoys being involved with this program because she is a Peer Leader and "big sister" in the tenth grade Advisory program; and

WHEREAS, While other seniors, who were taking part in the program that day, mingled amongst themselves or interacted with the sophomores casually, Samantha Kramer's only focus was to stay by Alex, a student with a classified disability and social limitations; she supported him though out the entire program, making a point to find him during random activities and whenever the opportunity presented itself; and

WHEREAS, This is the innate nature of this incredibly special young woman; she is kind, empathetic, approachable, and completely inclusive; and

WHEREAS, As an eleven-year old who would be attending a sleep away camp for the first time, Samantha Kramer chose a bunk away from her hometown friends so she would have the opportunity to meet a new,

diverse group of people and seven years later those girls are considered some of her closest friends; and one of her first editorials as co-Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper was titled The Great (Neck) Gatsby: Crossing Social Boundaries which highlighted the restricted social hierarchy of North High while encouraging students to branch out, meet students of all social groups, and create versatile friendships and experiences; and

WHEREAS, She is also the co-founder and an active member of the Debate Club, a member of Key Club, and has also been involved with athletics, participating in both the Badminton and Tennis; and

WHEREAS, Samantha Kramer's character is simply beyond reproach and she enriches any community of which she is a member; her intellectual curiosity, positive spirit, and people and communication skills are beyond her years and are attributes that will serve her well in college and beyond; and

WHEREAS, With her sense of civic duty and her commitment to others, Samantha Kramer represents the best development of the potential which is inherent in our most precious resource, our youth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Samantha Kramer upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Jewish Community Relations Council at the Annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Samantha Kramer.