

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Reverend Norma Williams upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Young Movement, Inc.

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Reverend Norma Williams upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Young Movement, Inc. on Saturday, March 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Young Movement is a 501c(3) member-supported action tank providing research, advocacy, and partnerships on socio-economic issues such as financial literacy and employment alternatives for young adults and professionals in New York; incorporated in October of 2011, this organization not only represents its members through research, advocacy, and forming partnerships, but ensures the positive results are long-standing while the unfavorable ones are non-recurrent for the next young generation; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Norma Williams is the daughter of the late Clarence and Ivy Raynor of Mount Prospect District, Manchester, Jamaica; she is married to Rollin Williams and they have three children Cheryl, Donnette and Kimberly; and

WHEREAS, As a child, Norma Williams attended Huntley Elementary School and Huntley Missionary Church; at age 12, she received a scholarship and went on to Manchester High School; from there, she went on to Church Teachers' College where she majored in Secondary Education and graduated with honors; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Brooklyn College with both a Bachelor of Arts in English cum laude and a Master of Arts in Secondary English Education, Norma Williams further equipped herself for Christian ministry by attending New York Theological Seminary; she first pursued and graduated with a Master of Professional Studies degree and later with a Master of Divinity in Parish Ministry and Christian Education degree; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, the Lenox Road Baptist Church licensed Minister Norma Williams to Christian ministry; in 2012, she was ordained as a reverend by the Lenox Road Baptist Church in collaboration with the American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan New York; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Williams is a certified New York City Department of Education teacher with over 20 years of experience; she has worked as a teacher, lead teacher, staff developer, and as a teacher center site coach responsible for providing professional development for teachers, and currently teaches Humanities at KAPPA V in Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, As an educator, Reverend Williams has received numerous awards, including Women Who Dare to be Different Award, a City Council Citation in March of 2004, the New York State Assembly Citation, and the Borough President award in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Reverend Williams has spearheaded various activities that seek to bring pertinent educational awareness to the community in which she worships such as educational workshops for parents and, children in kindergarten through high school; she has also presented writing workshops to the church community and to selected high school students as part of the Brooklyn Chapter of Certified Public Accountants; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Williams is spiritually passionate about seeing lives turned around for the better; she is presently enrolled in a course in Clinical Pastoral Education at the Health Care Chaplaincy; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to society, Reverend Norma Williams's distinguished record merits the recognition and respectful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Reverend Norma Williams upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Young Movement, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Reverend Norma Williams.