

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating United States Marine Corps Colonel Terry Van Williams upon the occasion of his promotion to One Star Brigadier General

WHEREAS, Individuals who dedicate their lives to military service merit the commendation and applause of all citizens for their commitment to the preservation of American freedom; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate United States Marine Corps Colonel Terry Van Williams upon the occasion of his promotion to One Star Brigadier General; and

WHEREAS, Born in Landstuhl, Germany, Colonel Terry Van Williams, former commander of United States Marine Corps Logistics Base-Albany, was nominated for appointment to the rank of One Star Brigadier General in February of 2013 during Black History month; he was one of 12 colonels to be nominated for the one-star ranking; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Williams is currently serving as the executive assistant to deputy commandant for installations and logistics at Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington, D.C.; prior to that, he served as the commanding officer for Marine Corps Logistics Base-Albany from June 2009 to May 2012; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles, Terry Williams was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in 1986 before attending the Basic School the following year; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, Terry Williams was promoted to lieutenant colonel and assigned to the Marine Corps Detachment at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for duty as detachment executive officer; from 2003 to 2005, he was assigned as the commanding officer, 8th Engineer Support Battalion; during this tour, he deployed to Haiti in 2004 as the commanding officer of Combat Service Support Detachment 20 in support of Operation Secure Tomorrow, and in 2005 to Iraq with his battalion in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Terry Williams attended the National War College in Washington, D.C.; upon graduation, he was assigned to Allied Command Transformation, Staff Element Europe as a logistics defense planning officer for NATO; during this assignment, he deployed to Afghanistan where he served as Branch Head, Directorate for Afghan National Army Training and Equipping Support, Headquarters International Security Assistance Forces, NATO; and

WHEREAS, Promoted to colonel in January 2008, Terry Williams was reassigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, Installations and Logistics Department in Arlington, Virginia in July of 2008 where he served as the operations officer for the Facilities and Services Division until June of 2009; after that, he assumed his post at Marine Corps Logistics Base-Albany; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Williams' personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf, the Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, the Joint Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal with two bronze stars; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Terry Williams joined the United States Marine Corps because of his father, Joseph Williams, who served for 21 years in the United States Air Force; Joseph Williams had an influential military career which planted a seed in Terry at a young age; and

WHEREAS, Along with his father, Joseph, with him throughout have been his mother, Loretta, his wife, Betty, their children Christian and Sean

Michael and his siblings, the late Brian, Bruce Terry, Yvan, Traci, and Wendi, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, The dedication and sacrifices of our military personnel ensure our continued role as a Nation which embodies the ideals of democracy, and is a defender of liberty for peoples throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services, who have served so faithfully and courageously in wars in which our Nation's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace during peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate United States Marine Corps Colonel Terry Van Williams upon the occasion of his promotion to One Star Brigadier General; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to United States Marine Corps Brigadier General Terry Van Williams.