

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Luther K. Robinson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 NOFAS Excellence Award

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. Luther K. Robinson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 NOFAS Excellence Award; and

WHEREAS, The National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) is the leading voice and resource of the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) community; founded in 1990, NOFAS is the only international non-profit organization committed solely to FASD primary prevention, advocacy and support; and

WHEREAS, Buffalo resident Dr. Luther K. Robinson was chosen for the NOFAS Excellence Award as a result of his lifelong work in dysmorphology and recognition of individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, particularly among minority groups around the world; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luther Robinson was raised in Elyria, Ohio, by his mother, Gene Simmons Robinson, and father, Luther Knox Robinson; the oldest of three children, he earned an AB in Biology from Oberlin College in 1970, his MD from the University of Cincinnati in 1974, and completed his residency in pediatrics at the University of California, San Diego in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luther Robinson's interest in fetal alcohol syndrome began while training at the University of San Diego School of Medicine during a two-year fellowship that changed his career course from private pediatrician to academic researcher; and

WHEREAS, Interested in human development and morphogenesis, Dr. Luther Robinson has the largest fetal alcohol syndrome clinic in the state, and serves, through a grant of the New York State Department of Health funded by the Centers for Disease Control, as a part of New York's fetal alcohol syndrome surveillance; he is also professor of pediatrics at the SUNY Buffalo School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luther Robinson is one of three lead physicians on several national and international research projects funded by NIASSA, and his research has included populations in New York, North and South Dakota, Montana, North Carolina, Russia, Italy, Finland, and South Africa; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luther Robinson has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, He is a chaplain on the pastoral care staff at Children's Hospital of Buffalo, and is an elder/pastor-elect at Spirit of Truth Urban Ministry; his professional and civic activities have earned him numerous accolades, including many teaching awards, and service awards through the March of Dimes; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Dr. Luther Robinson has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Sandra, his three grown children, L. Knox Robinson III, Loren Robinson, and Bobbie Mitchell Robinson, one stepdaughter, Sarah Gangell, and one grandson, Raul Robinson, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Dr. Luther Robinson has displayed

throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. Luther K. Robinson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 NOFAS Excellence Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Luther K. Robinson.