

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Mujahid Farid upon the occasion of his selection as a 2013 Soros Justice Fellow, to be celebrated on June 20, 2013

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 commend Mujahid Farid upon the occasion of his selection as a 2013 Soros Justice Fellow; a reception celebrating his achievement will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2013, at the offices of the Correctional Association of New York, in Harlem, New York; and

WHEREAS, Sponsored by the Open Society Foundations, the Soros Justice Fellowship provides stipends to established and emerging leaders working to change the criminal justice system and end mass incarceration; Mujahid Farid was one of 14 men and women chosen to receive this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, The fellowship, which is being hosted by the Correctional Association of New York, will support Mujahid Farid's work related to the growing number of aging people in prison; he has managed the Correctional Association's Court Pens Monitoring Project since 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mujahid Farid was incarcerated in a New York State penal institution for more than three decades; unbowed, this remarkable individual co-founded the Prisoners AIDS Counseling & Education program and helped design prison-based sociology and theology courses that allowed others to earn college-credit in prison; and

WHEREAS, Mujahid Farid also earned four college degrees and other certifications while in prison, including his paralegal certificate, a New York State Department of Labor Certificate in Human Development Counseling, and a New York City Department of Health Certificate in HIV/AIDS Counseling; and

WHEREAS, The Soros Justice Fellowship will allow Mujahid Farid to build on his already impressive legacy of advocacy on behalf of people in prisons; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Mujahid Farid upon the occasion of his selection as a 2013 Soros Justice Fellow; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mujahid Farid.