

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson upon the occasion of being honored in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those women of achievement within the Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who inspire others through their model citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, upon the occasion of being honored in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made invaluable contributions to the growth and strength of New York State in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the State of New York officially sets aside time to recognize the achievements and lives of such exemplary women, representatives of the wide-ranging and vital roles women have played in the historic development of this great Empire State and its communities; the theme of this year's commemoration is "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment"; and

WHEREAS, Theoretical physicist Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson has been described by Time Magazine as "perhaps the ultimate role model for women in science"; the president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, she has consistently epitomized the values of character, courage, and commitment in her unwavering service to her peers, colleagues, and fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson has helmed Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute since 1999; under her luminous leadership, this esteemed educational institution has transformed into a top-tier technological research university with dramatic increases in research awards and freshman enrollments, as well as hundreds of new faculty, and major capital projects completed; and

WHEREAS, In addition to academe, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson has held senior leadership positions in government, industry, and research; before assuming her current post, she was chairman of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, appointed by President William Jefferson Clinton; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson was appointed in 2009 by President Barack Obama to serve on the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology; in addition, she serves on the United States Department of Energy's Secretary of Energy Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, A multifaceted woman, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson also serves on the boards of the Smithsonian Institution, the Brookings Institution, the Council on Foreign Relations, M.I.T. and major corporations; and

WHEREAS, This extraordinary scientist and educator holds an S.B. in physics and a Ph.D. in theoretical elementary particle physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) where she was the first African American woman ever to earn a doctorate in the field; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her service to her community, the State of New York, and the nation, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; 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

the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson upon the occasion of being honored in conjunction with Women's History Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson.