

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Reverend Vivian Nixon 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 Reverend Vivian Nixon 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, Reverend Vivian Nixon is an impassioned advocate for access to higher education and opportunity in New York City; throughout her illustrious and varied career, she has consistently epitomized the values of character, courage, and commitment in her unwavering service to her peers, colleagues, and fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, With a background in both the corporate and non-profit sectors, Reverend Vivian Nixon is currently the Executive Director of College and Community Fellowship, an organization committed to removing individual and structural barriers to higher education for women with criminal record histories; she earned a Bachelor of Science degree from State University of New York Empire State College; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Vivian Nixon is, in addition, a woman of faith; an ordained local deacon in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, she serves as an associate minister at Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Vivian Nixon gives of herself unstintingly to many community organizations; her leadership and volunteer activities include serving on the board of directors of the Fortune Society, and co-founding the Education Inside Out Coalition, a collaborative effort to increase access to higher education for justice-involved students; and

WHEREAS, Her successful efforts towards the uplift of her fellow human beings have earned numerous accolades, including the John Jay Medal for Justice, the Ascend Fellowship at the Aspen Institute, the Soros Justice Fellowship, the Petra Foundation Fellowship, the Hudson Link for Higher Education Brian Fischer Award, the Citizens Against Recidivism Mary McLeod Bethune Award, and the Correctional Association of New York Lifting As We Climb Award; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her service to her community and the State of New York, Reverend Vivian Nixon 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 Reverend Vivian Nixon, 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 atten-

tion, 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 Reverend Vivian Nixon 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 Reverend Vivian Nixon.