

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Adelaide L. Sanford 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 Adelaide L. Sanford 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, Educator Adelaide L. Sanford is a retired teacher, principal and former Vice-Chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents; throughout her long and distinguished career, she has consistently epitomized the values of character, courage, and commitment in her unwavering service to her students, colleagues, and community; and

WHEREAS, Adelaide L. Sanford was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1925; she earned a Bachelor of Education degree from Brooklyn College in 1947, Master of Education degree from Wellesley College in 1950, and a Ph.D. in Education from Fordham University in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to the education and uplift of New York's children, Adelaide L. Sanford's illustrious 35-year career as an educator in New York City included service as an elementary school teacher, a guidance counselor, an assistant principal and a principal in New York City; it was as principal of the Crispus Attucks school in Brooklyn that she established her reputation for promoting excellence and achievement in underserved schools, gaining city-wide recognition for her school's dramatic improvements in student achievement, teacher morale and gifted programs; and

WHEREAS, After her retirement in 1985, Adelaide L. Sanford was elected to two 7-year terms as a member-at-large on the New York State Board of Regents, and served two 3-year terms as its vice chancellor; unwavering in her concern for the welfare of New York's most vulnerable children, she was chairperson of the Regents' Committee on Low Performing Schools and played a pivotal role in shaping new educational policies towards closing gaps in student performance among New York State's schools; and

WHEREAS, Adelaide L. Sanford's positive impact on the educational well-being of children extends beyond her work on the New York State Board of Regents; she served as a consultant for the boards of education in Niagara Falls, Connecticut, Indiana and New Jersey, worked on several national committees, including the advisory committee on multicultural education for the National Association of State Boards of Education, served on the board of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone, and played an instrumental role in creating the John Henrik Clarke meetinghouse; and

WHEREAS, Adelaide L. Sanford has won numerous accolades and awards for her outstanding leadership, commitment and accomplishment; her honors include distinguished alumna awards from Wellesley College and Brooklyn

College, the Josephine Shaw Lowell Award, the Ellen Lurie Award, and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Humanitarian Award; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her service to her community and the State of New York, Adelaide L. Sanford 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 educator Adelaide L. Sanford 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 Adelaide L. Sanford, 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 Adelaide L. Sanford.