

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Barbara Smith upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the United Tenants of Albany on June 11, 2014

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Smith has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Barbara Smith upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the United Tenants of Albany, to be celebrated at its 41st Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at St. Vincent De Paul Parish Hall, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Smith has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; her strong leadership and advocacy around countless critical social and economic justice issues has left an important and lasting legacy in the Albany community; and

WHEREAS, Co-founder in 1980 of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, Barbara Smith authored numerous books and periodicals on race, feminism, and gender inequality; she has been a steadfast supporter of those oppressed by poverty, racism, and social inequality; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she was instrumental in the creation of the anti-violence community group SNUG, now called CURE Violence; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Barbara Smith has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Smith has been a strong advocate for a holistic approach to education which emphasizes the importance of engaging the entire community in the lives of children; and

WHEREAS, For eight years, Barbara Smith served as a Member of the Common Council representing Arbor Hill today, she works in the Special Event Office for the City of Albany; and

WHEREAS, The proud recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Barbara Smith was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, and in 2012, she was profiled in the documentary "Makers: Women Who Make America"; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Barbara Smith has displayed throughout her life; 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 honor Barbara Smith upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the United Tenants of Albany on June 11, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Barbara Smith.