

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Nat Yalowitz for his 26 years of dedicated and distinguished service as President of the Penn South Program for Seniors

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that individuals who distinguish themselves in their profession and in service to their community merit the highest commendation; and

WHEREAS, Penn South is a unique coop community in the heart of the vibrant Chelsea section of Manhattan; its Penn South Program for Seniors (PSPS) is one of the most inclusive self-help programs in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The Penn South Program for Seniors, founded by Nat Yalowitz, has a full complement of services open to all seniors, including Penn South's Chelsea neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Longtime Penn South resident Nat Yalowitz has lived in Penn South since it opened in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Nat Yalowitz has had a lifelong commitment to social, racial and economic justice, and has always been guided by his empathy for the underrepresented and underserved; and

WHEREAS, He was a social work executive and professional for more than 45 years, specializing in the fields of mental health and medical social services; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, Nat Yalowitz co-founded Penn South Social Services (PSSS), the nation's first Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) supportive services program; and

WHEREAS, Shortly thereafter, Nat Yalowitz, in addition, co-founded the Penn South Program for Seniors (PSPS), which helps senior citizens remain in their own homes for as long as they wish, providing extensive on-site medical and social services as well as cultural, volunteer, and recreational programs; and

WHEREAS, Nat Yalowitz has served as President of PSSS and PSPS for 26 years, ensuring that essential programs and services were established and sustained to serve cooperators of all ages; and

WHEREAS, Nat Yalowitz, who has been called "The Father of NORCs," eventually became President and CEO of NORC Supportive Services Inc., a non-profit cooperative which assists other communities in addressing the special needs and problems of their senior residents so they can continue living well in their own homes; and

WHEREAS, More recently, Nat Yalowitz founded Penn South-Home Organized Personal Services (PS-HOPS), which provides members products and services at discounted prices and monitors the providers for quality and value; and

WHEREAS, As a result of Nat Yalowitz's efforts, countless senior citizens in Penn South and across New York State and the nation have been able to age in place with dignity, autonomy, and a high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Nat Yalowitz, after 26 years of dedicated and distinguished service, has stepped down as the President of the Penn South Program for Seniors and was fittingly honored at a reception on March 7, 2013; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Nat Yalowitz for his decades of service to the Penn South community and to senior citizens everywhere; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Nat Yalowitz.