LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Jonathan P. Jones upon the occasion of being named a 40 Under 40 2016 Honoree by the ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW

WHEREAS, In the course of the evolving development of this Empire State, when the ingredients of shared concern and responsive endeavor combine in commitment to community, there emerge among the distinguished citizenry of the State of New York, certain individuals who warrant special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Jonathan P. Jones upon the occasion of being named a 40 Under 40 2016 Honoree by the ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW; and

WHEREAS, Annually, the ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW selects 40 winners from more than 500 nominations by an advisory committee of business leaders; the 40 Under 40 program recognizes up-and-coming executives, innovators and leaders who will shape the future of Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Jonathan P. Jones is Commissioner of Recreation, Youth and Workforce Services for the City of Albany, New York; he is the youngest and first black Commissioner in the City's history; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan P. Jones joined the City administration in 2014; in this capacity, he directs each division in meeting its mission and goals; in addition, he manages staff and provides an overall vision for the Department, which includes ensuring fiscal accountability and needed capacity to deliver quality programming each day and over the long term; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his appointment with the city of Albany, Jonathan P. Jones interned with the Downtown Albany Business Improvement District in graduate school as well as with the New York State Education Department in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Following his internships, Jonathan P. Jones worked for nearly nine years at the New York State Education Department managing Federal Title I funds which focused on helping low-performing schools and providing professional development to administrators and teachers; and

WHEREAS, With a strong desire to provide a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving could be sustained and strengthened, Jonathan P. Jones began volunteering on weekends at a community program in West Hill in 2008; for over six years, he had the opportunity to mentor and learn from youth in the neighborhood, and pay forward some of the lessons that had been taught to him by his elders; and

WHEREAS, Defined as an at-risk youth from the east side of Syracuse, New York, Jonathan P. Jones attended year-round college preparatory and enrichment courses for seven years at Lemoyne College and Syracuse University; and

WHEREAS, After losing countless classmates, Jonathan enrolled in college as an Equal Opportunity student-athlete and studied Sociology as an undergraduate and Education Administration and Policy in graduate school; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout, have been his devoted mother and countless family members and friends, who have stood by him, helping him to balance his education, career, home life and his many other responsibilities, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Jonathan P. Jones; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their

profession, certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Jonathan P. Jones upon the occasion of being named a 40 Under 40 2016 Honoree by the ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jonathan P. Jones.