

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Nijaah Howard upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the National Action Network, West Nassau Chapter on March 26, 2017

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Nijaah Howard upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the National Action Network, West Nassau Chapter to be celebrated at its Dreams of Greatness Gala on Sunday, March 26, 2017, at Westbury Manor in Westbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious award is given to individuals who have demonstrated exemplary work, services, and commitment to the people of their communities; Nijaah Howard deserves this honor for her contributions to her neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The West Nassau Chapter, under the able leadership of District Chairperson, Pastor Emmanuel Asse, continues the mission of NAN which fulfills a vital role in moving our Nation forward; and

WHEREAS, As a child, Nijaah Howard enjoyed helping her mother in the kitchen, and grew to love cooking; after high school, she enrolled in The New York Restaurant School where she graduated with a degree in the culinary arts; shortly thereafter, she went to work at the Windows on the World restaurant in New York City; and

WHEREAS, After 9/11, Nijaah Howard reevaluated her life, and founded Millennium Minds, Inc., a non-profit mentoring program designed to give inner city youth the gift of exposing them to life outside of their communities; she returned to college, and earned her bachelor's degree in both psychology and sociology from CUNY Queens College; after graduation, she worked with youth who struggled with mental health or developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, After obtaining her master's degree in mental health, Nijaah Howard became the Chief Executive Officer of Young Men Strong, LLC, a media, consulting and mentoring company structured to educate, empower, and unite men of all color, providing preventive training programs to reduce recidivism; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence 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 Nijaah Howard upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the National Action Network, West Nassau Chapter; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Nijaah Howard.