

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Taina Asili upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Jim Perry Progressive Leadership Award by Capital District Citizen Action on October 20, 2016

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

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 honor Taina Asili upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Jim Perry Progressive Leadership Award by Capital District Citizen Action to be celebrated at its 24th Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, October 20, 2016, at the Desmond Hotel, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Jim Perry Progressive Leadership Awards are named in honor of Jim Perry, a founding member of Capital District Citizen Action; it is with the memories of his actions and words that this vital organization recognizes those who have demonstrated a commitment to community activism and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Taina Asili is being honored with this auspicious award for her role as one of the area's most dedicated, inspiring activists and leaders who has spent countless hours working to make her community a stronger, more just place to live; and

WHEREAS, Progressive musician and artist Taina Asili is a Puerto Rican singer, songwriter and bandleader combining powerful vocals with an energetic fusion of Afro-Latin, reggae and rock; and

WHEREAS, Residing in Albany, New York, Taina Asili performs her social justice songs as a solo artist and with her six-piece band, Taina Asili y la Banda Rebelde, bringing love, resistance, and ancestral remembrance to venues, festivals, conferences and political events across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her illustrious 20-year career of creating music for social change, Taina Asili has toured the United States, and Europe from Ireland to Germany; she has also performed in Canada, Mexico, and Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, Taina Asili is truly dedicated to using her art as a tool for personal and social transformation; the liberation themes in her writing are based in her social justice work in political prisoner

liberation, prisoner rights, climate justice, and holistic health movements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Taina Asili 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 Taina Asili upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Jim Perry Progressive Leadership Award by Capital District Citizen Action on October 20, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Taina Asili.