

BY: Senator COMRIE

PAYING tribute to legendary lead singer of the Drifters, Rick Sheppard, upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition, and commemorating the making of the Historical Film Documentary and Live Show entitled, "A Drifters Legacy Never Ending" "The Rick Sheppard Story"

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and recognize those individuals whose commitment and creative talents have contributed to the entertainment and cultural enrichment of their community and the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to pay tribute to legendary lead singer of the Drifters, Rick Sheppard, upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition, and commemorating the making of the Historical Film Documentary and Live Show entitled, "A Drifters Legacy Never Ending" "The Rick Sheppard Story"; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious event will be feted at a Champagne Celebration on Saturday, July 1, 2017, in Elmont, New York; and

WHEREAS, Rick Sheppard is a living legend and one of the last surviving members of the world famous Atlantic Records Recording artists, the Drifters, a long-lasting doo-wop and beloved R&B/soul vocal group; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of four, Rick Sheppard and his family relocated from South Carolina to Long Island, New York, where he graduated from high school; and

WHEREAS, A few years later, Rick Sheppard and his wife moved to the neighborhood of St. Albans, in Queens, New York; a talented singer, he was quickly discovered and asked to join the Drifters as its lead singer; and

WHEREAS, After joining the band, Rick Sheppard moved to Cambria Heights in Queens, where he and his wife, son, and daughter lived for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Today, Rick Sheppard continues to sing with the modern-day Drifters; he enjoys performing all of the group's legendary and timeless hits including "Up on the Roof," "There Goes My Baby," "Under the Boardwalk," and "On Broadway," as well as many more; and

WHEREAS, Rick Sheppard distinguishes himself thorough his sincere musical dedication as well as his charismatic performances on stage, leaving an indelible legacy of inspiration in the hearts of his devoted fans and communities throughout Southeast Queens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to legendary lead singer of the Drifters, Rick Sheppard, upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition, and commemorating the making of the Historical Film Documentary and Live Show entitled, "A Drifters Legacy Never Ending" "The Rick Sheppard Story"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rick Sheppard.