

BY: Senator PARKER

CONGRATULATING Vincilia Kirton upon the occasion
of celebrating her 103rd Birthday

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commemorate and recognize certain milestones celebrated by citizens of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Vincilia Kirton upon the occasion of her 103rd Birthday to be celebrated on Monday, January 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Vincilia Kirton was born on January 22, 1915, in Castries on the island of St. Lucia; and

WHEREAS, After her husband, Bertie Kirton migrated to New York City, Vincilia Kirton and her children met him there in 1967; Vincilia worked as a nurse's aide at the Jewish Hospital in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, a position she held until the death of her beloved husband; and

WHEREAS, A vibrant and fun-loving woman, Vincilia Kirton is an active member of both the Fort Green Albany Senior Center on Albany Avenue and the FGS Teresa Moore Center in East New York on Linden Boulevard in Brooklyn; she loves to play bingo and create arts and crafts projects with her friends at the Centers; and

WHEREAS, An incredible mother to her children, and a mother-like figure to all, Vincilia Kirton was nominated for Mother of the Year by **Carib News**, and was named Mother of the Year by the Mother's Day group of St. Lucia in New York; and

WHEREAS, Vincilia Kirton was also recognized as the Queen of the Over 80s by the New York State Department of the Aged representing the Pink Houses Senior Center which is now the FGS Teresa Moore Center; to this day, she is jokingly and lovingly called the Queen by members of the Center; and

WHEREAS, A faithful congregant of St. Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church, Vincilia Kirton was recognized as the oldest member still attending services; as part of the Church's ministry, she enthusiastically visits the Crown Heights Center Marcus Garvey Nursing and Rehabilitation with her daughter on Sundays; and

WHEREAS, Vincilia Kirton has truly lived by example and attributes her long and happy life to prayer and honoring her parents; and

WHEREAS, Vincilia Kirton is the loving wife of the late Bertie Kirton, the devoted mother of the late Carol, and the cherished sister of the late Camille Dyer and Annette James; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her six children, Barbara, Elsie, Keith, William, Peter and Christine; her eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren, as well as her brother, Andre Arthur, all of whom have shown her love and support and rejoice in her many achievements; and

WHEREAS, Vincilia Kirton, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, Vincilia Kirton has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Vincilia Kirton upon the occasion of celebrating her 103rd Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Vincilia Kirton.