

**BY:** Senator PARKER

**COMMEMORATING** Bedford Stuyvesant's 8th Annual Veterans' Memorial Day Parade sponsored by Black Veterans for Social Justice, Inc. on May 27, 2019

**WHEREAS,** Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peace-time, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate Bedford Stuyvesant's 8th Annual Veterans' Memorial Day Parade sponsored by Black Veterans for Social Justice, Inc. on Monday, May 27, 2019, paying just tribute to those who have served, are serving, as well as those who have lost their lives in service to this country; and

**WHEREAS,** The opening ceremony will be held at Restoration Plaza on the Promenade followed by the parade which will proceed up Marcy Avenue, onto Willoughby Avenue and conclude at the headquarters of Black Veterans for Social Justice, Inc. (BVSJ); and

**WHEREAS,** Based in Brooklyn, New York, and incorporated in 1979, Black Veterans for Social Justice is the largest private community-based agency serving New York City's veterans, their families and the community; and

**WHEREAS,** Black Veterans for Social Justice was developed as an outgrowth of the social justice movement; the initial concern was assisting veterans of the Vietnam War to reintegrate with their families, communities, and the greater society; and

**WHEREAS,** Today, under the leadership of President/CEO Wendy McClinton, Black Veterans for Social Justice annually serves an average of 12,000 clients, maintains 400 units of housing and several commercial spaces, and provides an array of social services; and

**WHEREAS,** Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

**WHEREAS,** Having exhibited their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their State and Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate Bedford Stuyvesant's 8th Annual Veterans' Memorial Day Parade sponsored by Black Veterans for Social Justice, Inc. on Monday, May 27, 2019; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Wendy McClinton, President/CEO, Black Veterans for Social Justice, Inc.