

BY: Senator BRESLIN

HONORING Ken Screven upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2020 Hero Award by the Albany Damien Center on September 17, 2020

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those dedicated and distinguished individuals within our midst whose professional lives, civic endeavors and personal achievements are an inspiration to their family, friends and community; one such individual is Ken Screven; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Ken Screven upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2020 Hero Award by the Albany Damien Center; and

WHEREAS, Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Albany Damien Center will be hosting a virtual event on Thursday, September 17, 2020, to congratulate Ken Screven on receiving this auspicious award, and to wish him a very Happy 70th Birthday; and

WHEREAS, The Albany Damien Center, one of the first AIDS drop-in centers in the nation, began in 1988 and was incorporated in 1990 as a Ministry of the Capital District Episcopal Churches and their friends in response to the 1988 Episcopal Church's call to meet the crisis of the AIDS Epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Ken Screven, retired CBS6 News Capital Bureau Chief and first African American male on local TV news, is receiving the 2020 Hero Award for his never-ending commitment to educating and advocating for all people; and

WHEREAS, During his 38-year broadcasting career, Ken Screven brought life and emotional connection to the stories he told and always represented the issues, and people impacted by them, in an honest and moving way; and

WHEREAS, In retirement, through his popular **Albany Times Union** blog, active social media following and personal appearances, Ken Screven uses his voice to speak intelligently to the issues impacting the people in his community and to advocate for social change; and

WHEREAS, In addition to receiving the 2020 Hero Award, Ken Screven was the recipient of the 2009 Citizen Action Jim Perry Progressive Leadership Award, and was a 2018 honoree of the Community Advocate Award by In Our Own Voices, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, 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 honor Ken Screven upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2020 Hero Award by the Albany Damien Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ken Scriven.