

BY: Senator MYRIE

CELEBRATING the life and legacy of the late Christopher George Latore Wallace on March 9, 2022, the 25th Anniversary of his death

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to those musical geniuses 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 celebrate the life and legacy of the late Christopher George Latore Wallace on the 25th Anniversary of his death; and

WHEREAS, A man of colossal talent, Christopher Wallace, a.k.a. "The Notorious B.I.G." was an American rapper and songwriter also known as "Biggie Smalls", "Big Poppa" or "Big"; he was murdered when he was just 24 years old, yet he is one of the most revered, emulated and biggest-selling rappers in the game; and

WHEREAS, Born on May 21, 1972, and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Christopher Wallace released his debut album "Ready to Die" in 1994 after signing with Bad Boy Records; the album, which included his signature songs "Juicy" and "Big Poppa," made him a central figure in the East Coast hip-hop scene and increased New York's visibility in the genre at a time when West Coast hip-hop was dominant in the mainstream; and

WHEREAS, The following year, Christopher Wallace led his childhood friends to chart success through his protege group, Junior M.A.F.I.A.; while recording his second album, he became involved in the growing East Coast/West Coast hip hop feud; and

WHEREAS, The Notorious B.I.G. died on March 9, 1997, in Los Angeles, California; his double-album "Life After Death", released just 16 days later, reached number one on the Billboard 200 and eventually achieved a diamond certification in the United States; and

WHEREAS, With two more posthumous albums released, The Notorious B.I.G. has certified sales of over 28 million copies in the United States, including 21 million albums; and

WHEREAS, Revered as the greatest rapper who ever lived by **Rolling Stone**, The Notorious B.I.G. was also named the greatest rapper of all time by **Billboard** magazine; **The Source** magazine named him the greatest rapper of all time in its 150th issue, and in 2006, MTV ranked him at No. 3 on their list of The Greatest MCs of All Time, calling him possibly "the most skillful ever on the mic"; furthermore, in 2020, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, The Notorious B.I.G.'s dedication to his music leaves an indelible legacy of inspiration which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to his family, friends and countless fans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and legacy of the late Christopher George Latore Wallace on the 25th Anniversary of his death; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Christopher George Latore Wallace.