

BY: Senator KAPLAN

HONORING Linda Mirels, on behalf of the Kirsh Foundation, upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Barbara and Ira A. Lipman Community Security Award by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals and organizations it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Linda Mirels, on behalf of the Kirsh Foundation, upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Barbara and Ira A. Lipman Community Security Award by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, to be celebrated at its Annual Spring Gala on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at The Plaza, in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Linda Mirels is truly proud to be a part of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC) which diligently works to build relationships within the Jewish community and with New Yorkers of all backgrounds and faiths to advance the values, interests, and security of the Jewish community and to create a more interconnected New York for all; and

WHEREAS, Born in South Africa and raised in Eswatini, Linda Mirels maintains a deep connection to both nations; she earned her degree in social work with honors from the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Washington, Seattle; she is a Wexner Graduate Fellow and has a certification in organizational consulting from the William Alanson White Institute; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to making her community a better place to live, work, and play, Linda Mirels is an honorary lifetime member of the Board of UJA-Federation of New York and served as Chair of the Board; she was appointed to the position of co-Chair of the New York-Israel Commission, responsible for creating a framework to strengthen economic and cultural ties between New York and Israel; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Linda Mirels serves as a member of the Boards of Directors for the American Jewish Committee, the Israel Campus Coalition, the Tony Blair Foundation, and The Metropolitan Opera; and

WHEREAS, Linda Mirels also serves on the advisory board of her family's foundation, the Kirsh Foundation, which engages in a range of philanthropic endeavors designed to foster self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship primarily in Sub Saharan Africa and Israel; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her life, Linda Mirels has truly lived by her family's philanthropic philosophy, "give a man a fish, you feed him for a day: teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime"; and

WHEREAS, When she is not helping someone, Linda Mirels serves as the Chair of Ki Corporation, a family holding company which manages a portfolio of diversified investments including major holdings in food distribution and real estate; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefits of others which Linda Mirels has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Linda Mirels, on behalf of the Kirsh Foundation, upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Barbara and Ira A. Lipman Community Security Award by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Linda Mirels, Kirsh Foundation.