

**BY:** Senator KENNEDY

**MOURNING** the tragic and untimely death of Celestine Chaney, devoted mother, distinguished citizen and beloved member of her community

**WHEREAS,** There are certain outstanding members of our community who, through their selfless commitment and dedication, have served to better the quality of life in our community and have had a measurable positive impact on the lives of its residents; Celestine Chaney was one such individual; and

**WHEREAS,** It is with profound sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Celestine Chaney, noting the significance of her purposeful life and accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS,** Celestine Chaney of Buffalo, New York, died on Saturday, May 14, 2022, in the devastating act of violence which took place at the Tops Friendly Market on historic Jefferson Avenue; she was 65 years old; and

**WHEREAS,** The youngest of four daughters, Celestine Chaney attended Clinton Junior High School before graduating from Fosdick Masten Girls Vocational High School where she learned to sew; she went on to study business administration at Bryant & Stratton College; and

**WHEREAS,** Celestine Chaney shared a wonderful life with her longtime partner and fiancé, Raymond Johnson; she held several notable jobs at prominent manufacturing companies, including M.Wile and New Era Cap; and

**WHEREAS,** While she was passionate about many things, above all her greatest passion was being with her family; she is survived by her beloved partner, Raymond Johnson; her only son, Wayne Donell Jones (Halimah Madyun); nine grandchildren, Wayne Donell Jones, Jr. (Danielle Simpson), Kayla Jones, Charon Reed, Chayna Jones, Donell Jones, Nasir Jones, Dominique Brown, Latifa Johnson, and Latoya Baugh; nine great-grandchildren; one sister, Joann Daniel; and a host of nieces and nephews; and

**WHEREAS,** Celestine Chaney's infinite selflessness and benevolence will shine on through her family's vivid and happy memories; her insight and strength will forever serve as a beacon of love, light and hope to the countless lives she touched; and

**WHEREAS,** Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Celestine Chaney leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing woman; she will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

mourn the tragic and untimely death of Celestine Chaney, and to express its deepest condolences to her family; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Celestine Chaney.