

BY: Senator BAILEY

MOURNING the death of Luciel Boles-Wilson,
distinguished citizen, and devoted 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; Luciel Boles-Wilson was one such individual; and

WHEREAS, It is with profound sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Luciel Boles-Wilson, noting the significance of her purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Luciel Ponder was born in the Bronx, New York, to Nelson and Estelle Ponder on August 28, 1947; growing up she had a passion for mathematics and problem solving; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Theodore Roosevelt High School, Luciel Boles-Wilson began working with Blue Cross Blue Shield, where she would spend the next 30 years working as a project manager; during her illustrious tenure, she contributed greatly to the company by implementing new processes and systems, creating some of the most fulfilling moments in her career; and

WHEREAS, During this time, Luciel met her first husband, Russell M. Boles Sr., and together they had two children, Bonita Ponder and Russell M. Boles Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Luciel was later remarried to her second husband, Austin Wilson, who aided in raising her first grandchild, Walter J. Redden; and

WHEREAS, In 1996, after receiving a breast cancer diagnosis, Luciel Boles-Wilson started a small business from her Co-Op City apartment named Walter's Grandmother Summer Daycare and After School Program where she went on to nurture countless children in her community; and

WHEREAS, Luciel Boles-Wilson also gave tirelessly of her time and energies as a volunteer at the R.A.I.N Nereid Center and Bronx Health Corporation where she discovered her passion for helping other senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, Through her volunteer work, Luciel Boles-Wilson was recognized by the Bronx Borough President's office as The Poet of the Bronx, for sharing her poetry everywhere she went; and

WHEREAS, With a steadfast and unwavering commitment to her beloved community, Luciel Boles-Wilson was a New York Cares Volunteer with Arts Works Museum Guild for learning leaders; Sigma Gamma Rho Philo Affiliates-Chaplin; Senior Tasks Force member with Center Light at Beth

Abraham, Bronx; Wakefield Taxpayers Civil League Member; and Senior Advocate and Writing Workshop Coordinator at R.A.I.N Nereid Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, A woman of indomitable faith and dedication, Luciel Boles-Wilson was a Sunday School Teacher at Community Protestant Church in the Bronx under the Leadership of Reverend Calvin E. Owens, and an active member of Soundview Avenue Baptist Church for a few years under the Leadership of Reverend Marjorie Batson; and

WHEREAS, Luciel Boles-Wilson went on to become an active member of United Christian Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend Reginald Paris, during which time she was a member of the congregation's Lords Choir and later became the vice-president of the choir; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Luciel was a dedicated Sunday School member before becoming the Children's School Teacher and Superintendent; she truly loved working with the children, providing them with breakfast at church and taking them out to community events; and

WHEREAS, Preceded in death by her parents, husbands, and children, Luciel Boles-Wilson is survived by her grandchildren, Russell Boles, Randolph Davis, Donovan Hines, Nia Boles, and Russia Boles; and great-grandson, Dante Redden; and

WHEREAS, Luciel Boles-Wilson'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, Luciel Boles-Wilson 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 death of Luciel Boles-Wilson, 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 Luciel Boles-Wilson.