

BY: Senator BAILEY

HONORING Not On My Watch, Inc., in conjunction with the January 2024 observance of Human Trafficking Prevention Month

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations of the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Not On My Watch, Inc., in conjunction with the January 2024 observance of Human Trafficking Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, Reverend Que English launched Not On My Watch (NOMW), a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening collaborations and building strategic partnerships in an effort to identify the needs of at-risk and trafficked victims, and providing them with the resources, awareness, and training that they need; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, NOMW has evolved into a fierce community advocacy organization for at-risk youth and victims of human trafficking and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, As a culturally competent organization, NOMW has made it their mission to combat human trafficking and domestic violence through preventive programs that focus on education, training, community engagement and providing resources and housing for victims, survivors, and at-risk youth; and

WHEREAS, NOMW has empowered over 450 houses of worship, organizations, and education institutions with the tools necessary to combat human trafficking and domestic violence in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this vital organization has hosted national conferences with more than 3,000 leaders and community members in attendance to receive education and training around human trafficking and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, NOMW has worked tirelessly alongside national and local organizations to pass key legislation to protect the most vulnerable among us; and

WHEREAS, Not On My Watch recognizes that human trafficking and domestic violence are both caused by a breakdown in key social systems, especially when we consider the impact on young girls; and

WHEREAS, For this reason, in 2021, under the guidance and leadership of Pamela Damon, NOMW created Club Alternatives G.L.A.M. (girls, leaders, advocates, mentors) which provides preventive training and

programs designed to empower young girls and females; and

WHEREAS, Through Club Alternatives programs, training, activities, and community events hundreds of girls and young adults have received life changing resources; and

WHEREAS, NOMW movements take a holistic and systems-level approach by engaging key governmental institutions such as law enforcement and human services agencies alongside elected officials, community-based organizations, community advocates, and churches to generate awareness, encourage action and establish best practices; and

WHEREAS, In 2022, Reverend Dr. Que English passed leadership of Not On My Watch, Inc. to its current Executive Director, Pamela Damon, and on Saturday, December 10th of that same year, the organization opened its flagship Empowerment Center located in Bronx, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Empowerment Center provides a hub of resources, trainings, activities, and events designed to empower and impact the lives of women and young girls, thus giving its members the necessary tools to live productive, safe, and empowered lives; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations 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 Not On My Watch, Inc., in conjunction with the January 2024 observance of Human Trafficking Prevention Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Pamela Damon, Executive Director, Not On My Watch, Inc.