

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING The Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Ecumenical Award by Stuy Park Lions Club, Inc. on February 17, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who would devote their life's work and purpose to community service, contributing to the welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor The Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Ecumenical Award by Stuy Park Lions Club, Inc. to be celebrated at its 30th Annual Pearl Red and White Gala on Friday, February 17, 2023, at Antun's, Queens Village, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Stuy Park Lions Club is part of Lions Clubs International, one of the largest service organizations in the world, and is deeply committed to meeting the challenges of public service; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery graduated from Boston College with a major in psychology and a minor in Theology; later, she earned her Master of Divinity degree from the Howard University School of Divinity, and a Master of Social Work degree from the University at Albany; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery has dedicated her life to working with those who need it the most, such as teenage mothers, homeless and LGBTQ youth, male juvenile offenders, and adults living with HIV/AIDS, many of whom struggle with mental health and substance abuse challenges; most recently, she served as a Program Director for an HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention program at Sheltering Arms Children and Family Services in Jamaica, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery served in the Residency in Ministry program at The Concord Baptist Church of Christ, followed by the Middle Collegiate Church in New York, New York, where she led two mission trips to New Orleans to help rebuild the city after it was devastated by Hurricane Katrina, and served on the Special Commission for the Just Rebuilding of the Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery is an Associate Pastor at The Concord Baptist Church of Christ where she blends both her call to ministry and her calling as a social worker; 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 The Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Ecumenical Award by Stuy Park Lions Club, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Morine A. Bowen-Avery