

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Jamaica's Promise upon the occasion of hosting its Jamaica Independence Gala on August 19, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 commend Jamaica's Promise upon the occasion of hosting its Jamaica Independence Gala on Saturday, August 19, 2023, at New York Hilton Midtown, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Ambassador Audrey Marks developed Jamaica's Promise by modeling the foundation after America's Promise and approaching the United States Secretary of State for support; and

WHEREAS, In her capacity as patron for Jamaica's Promise, Ambassador Audrey Marks has continued to further a comprehensive system by which to support Jamaica's youth in a myriad of ways, ranging from scholarship funds and fundraising to direct mentorship; and

WHEREAS, Jamaica's Promise is a voluntary, non-profit organization that aims to mobilize resources from Jamaicans both in the United States and abroad, and friends of Jamaica, for the purpose of alleviating the social conditions, lack of education, and skill training on the Island; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to enriching the future generation, Jamaica's Promise supports young people between the ages of 0 to 25 who are unable to pursue their education or skill training due to economic challenges; the Foundation plans to increase access to invaluable resources and opportunities for these at-risk youths; and

WHEREAS, Intending to bring together nonprofits, community organizations, businesses, and government organizations with a common goal, Jamaica's Promise is devoted to advancing the welfare of Jamaica's underprivileged youths; this Gala will provide an avenue for people to contribute to charitable causes for Jamaicans; and

WHEREAS, The success of Jamaica's Promise is in direct correlation to the efforts of its dedicated volunteers and sponsors, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 commend Jamaica's Promise upon the occasion of hosting its Jamaica Independence Gala on August 19, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ambassador Audrey Marks, patron, Jamaica's Promise.