

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III, King of Akuapem (Okuapehene), upon the occasion of receiving the Global Citizen Icon Award in Cultural Identity, Diaspora Advancement, and Socioeconomic Empowerment

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend individuals whose leadership preserves cultural heritage, advances global unity, and uplifts communities through service, vision, and principled stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III, the 26th occupant of the Ofori Kuma Stool of Akuapem and King of the Akuapems (Okuapehene), upon the occasion of receiving the Global Citizen Icon Award in Cultural Identity, Diaspora Advancement, and Socioeconomic Empowerment from the Young, Gifted, & Black Entrepreneurial Awards on Wednesday, February 25, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Established in 2006 by founder Carl Gray, the Young, Gifted, & Black Entrepreneurial Awards is a nonprofit organization dedicated to recognizing and celebrating distinguished individuals of color whose leadership and service have made lasting global impact, while uplifting excellence rooted in community, culture, and purpose; and

WHEREAS, Born Odehye Kwadwo Kesse Antwi on February 24, 1986, Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III ascended the Ofori Kuma Stool on May 3, 2020, following his selection as the eligible heir to his late uncle, Oseadeeyo Addo Dankwa III, who reigned for more than four decades as King of Akuapem, thereby continuing a revered lineage of traditional authority, cultural guardianship, and service to the Akuapem people; and

WHEREAS, Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III is deeply rooted in royal heritage through both parental lineages, representing the Agona and Asona clans, and embodies the values of discipline, service, and leadership instilled through his upbringing in a family devoted to faith, tradition, and national service; and

WHEREAS, His Majesty pursued academic excellence both in Ghana and the United States, completing his secondary education at Presbyterian Boys' High School (PRESEC) in Legon, Ghana, and later earning an Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration from Westchester Community College in Valhalla, New York, where he was inducted into the Alpha Beta Gamma Business Honor Society for academic distinction; and

WHEREAS, Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III continued his higher education at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, New York, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, specializing in management, and later commenced graduate studies in human resource management, demonstrating a strong commitment to leadership development and

organizational excellence; and

WHEREAS, While residing in New York City, Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III acquired extensive professional experience in management, hospitality operations, and entrepreneurship, holding leadership positions at prominent institutions, including The Mark Hotel, Empire City Casino, and Crowne Plaza Times Square, and founding American Link Estates LLC on Park Avenue South; and

WHEREAS, Upon his return to Ghana, His Majesty co-founded Jupe Global Company Limited, a business consulting and investment facilitation firm dedicated to transforming startups and struggling enterprises into sustainable ventures, with strategic interests in agriculture, waste recycling, healthcare, and technology, reflecting a strong commitment to socially responsible economic development; and

WHEREAS, As Okuapehene, Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III has articulated a clear and forward-looking vision for peace, unity, justice, and sustainable development within Okuapeman, working collaboratively with the Traditional Council and government institutions to promote education, industrialization, poverty alleviation, youth empowerment, and the preservation of Akuapem customs, laws, and cultural values; and

WHEREAS, In furtherance of this mission, His Majesty established the Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo Foundation (OKWAF), a philanthropic initiative dedicated to improving healthcare access, educational opportunity, and sustainable employment with a particular focus on supporting schools for the blind and deaf, rural students, aged citizens, and low-income families throughout Okuapeman and Ghana's Eastern Region; and

WHEREAS, Through his leadership, philanthropy, and global perspective, shaped by his experiences in the African diaspora, Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III exemplifies the ideals of cultural preservation, socioeconomic empowerment, and transnational engagement that define responsible modern traditional leadership; and

WHEREAS, The Global Citizen Icon Award in Cultural Identity, Diaspora Advancement, and Socioeconomic Empowerment fittingly recognizes His Majesty's unwavering dedication to uplifting his people, strengthening global Black identity, and advancing inclusive development rooted in tradition and innovation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III, Okuapehene and King of the Akuapems, upon the occasion of receiving the Global Citizen Icon Award, and to commend him for his distinguished leadership, cultural stewardship, and commitment to empowering communities at home and across the global African diaspora; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Oseadeeyo Kwasi Akuffo III and to the Young, Gifted, & Black Entrepreneurial Awards as a lasting expression of the highest respect and appreciation of this Legislative Body.