

Senate Resolution No. 212

**BY:** Senator PARKER

**MOURNING** the death of Gail Nesbit Coward,  
distinguished citizen and devoted member of her  
community

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to  
citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor  
served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and this  
great Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Surrounded by her family, Gail Nesbit Coward died  
peacefully on Wednesday, January 1, 2025, at the age of 70; and

**WHEREAS,** Gail Nesbit Williams was born to William Dill and Evelyn  
Williams in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on February 9, 1954, one of nine  
children; she received her education in the Philadelphia Public School  
system; later, she established her home in Binghamton, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Family was Gail Nesbit Coward's greatest joy, and she  
enjoyed being a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and  
aunt; and

**WHEREAS,** Gail Nesbit Coward possessed many talents; she was an  
advocate for justice, caretaker, small business owner, and so much more;  
and

**WHEREAS,** Active in her community, Gail Nesbit Coward was a member of  
organizations in New York State, including the Prince Hall Order of the  
Eastern Star, Inc., and Temple Beth El-22nd Tabernacle; and

**WHEREAS,** To cherish her memory, Gail Nesbit Coward leaves behind her  
children, including her daughter, New York State Senator Lea Webb; her  
grandchildren; her great-grandchildren; and many relatives and friends;  
and

**WHEREAS,** Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of  
compassion, Gail Nesbit Coward leaves behind a legacy which will long  
endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all  
she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to  
mourn the death of Gail Nesbit Coward, distinguished citizen and devoted  
member of her community; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be  
transmitted to the family of Gail Nesbit Coward.