

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMEMORATING the 2nd Annual Prince Hall Day at
the New York State Capitol on May 28, 2025

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 2nd Annual Prince Hall Day at the New York State Capitol on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, and welcome Prince Hall Masons from across the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is justly important to recognize the history and tradition of Freemasonry dating back to 1775, in which Prince Hall began the fight for African Americans to become Masons and be recognized alongside other members of society, ultimately establishing the first African American lodge, known as African Lodge No. 459; and

WHEREAS, The dedicated Masons of New York are men with a social conscience and a charitable perspective, who are also known as Freemasons; they are part of a fraternal organization that shares common moral ideals and esoteric values which are based on the doctrine of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; and

WHEREAS, The hardships, trials, and tribulations faced over their enduring history cemented the long-standing resolve, privilege, and pride that come with the rights of each Master Mason in their respected lodge; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed occasion presents an opportunity to set aside time to recognize members of the Prince Hall Lodges, past and present, who have worked diligently to uplift their communities and uphold the values of Prince Hall Masonry, delivering present-day Masons to the status and respect they so proudly carry; and

WHEREAS, Under the esteemed leadership of Most Worshipful Grand Master Darren M. Morton, Ed.D., the Prince Hall Masons of New York continue their longstanding tradition of excellence, community service, and leadership, serving as a beacon of hope, unity, and progress across the State; and

WHEREAS, The Prince Hall Masons are, and always have been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the communities and institutions they so faithfully serve; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proudly moved to commend and honor the Prince Hall Masons of New York who have labored conscientiously to

secure and improve the quality of life for the people of New York through fraternity, charity, and civic leadership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 2nd Annual Prince Hall Day at the New York State Capitol on May 28, 2025; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New York.