

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Jacqueline Contreras upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Healthfirst, on March 29, 2018, in conjunction with the observance of Women's History Month

WHEREAS, The State of New York is home to countless women who have contributed to the advancement of our culture through both their traditional and non-traditional roles in society; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Jacqueline Contreras upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Healthfirst, to be observed at its Community Award Celebration at Maestro's Caterers, Bronx, New York, on Thursday, March 29, 2018, in conjunction with the observance of Women's History Month; this year's award celebration theme is "Groundbreakers and Herstory Makers of Today"; and

WHEREAS, Jacqueline Contreras is being recognized for demonstrating an unwavering commitment to being a voice in the community and is focused on issues that are important to its residents; this exceptional woman reflects the fabric of her city and works daily to improve conditions for others; and

WHEREAS, Jacqueline Contreras was born in the Dominican Republic; since childhood, she has had a keen interest in radio, and in 1982, at 13 years-old, she began in Radio Progreso and later Radio Merengue, as an entertainer in the program "Dominical"; she later worked in Radio San Francisco and one of her shows, with the largest audiences, was Baladas de la 94, and the morning show "Notimusica"; and

WHEREAS, Jacqueline Contreras studied in the Dominican Republic, graduating from the Universidad Catolica Nordestana with a degree in law; she only pursued her legal career for one year, as she came to reside in New York in 1992; and

WHEREAS, She was an executive of Amparo Productions, and emcee of numerous activities, including in Radio City Music Hall and Madison Square Garden and has been the recipient of many awards and recognitions, among them the Pico de Oro del Circulo de Locutores Dominicanos, Estrella de la Musica, and El Casandra, as well as accolades from several institutions across New York and New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, Jaqueline Contreras returned to the Dominican Republic, and created the show "Jacqueline Internacional"; in 2003, she moved back to New York City and immersed herself in a new television show with Super Canal Caribe, broadcasting in the eastern United States as well as Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and the Dominican Republic; and

WHEREAS, For nearly 10 years, Jaqueline Contreras was a radio host

for station 93.1; in 2011, she decided to retire from radio, dedicating herself completely to her work in television and creating the production company Alma Media LLC; and

WHEREAS, Together with New York State's Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and Commissioner Arlene Gonzalez-Sanchez, Jaqueline Contreras recently produced the program "Nueva Esperanza Nueva Vida con OASAS," which aims to inform the Latino community about the problem of addiction and the services available through New York State for those facing challenges with addiction; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Jose, and her three children, Kiana, Sheryl, and Jose Armando, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of his Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Jacqueline Contreras upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Healthfirst, on March 29, 2018, in conjunction with the observance of Women's History Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jacqueline Contreras.