Senate Resolution No. 1567

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Wimberly Edwards upon the occasion of being named a Legacy Honoree by the National Association of University Women, Brooklyn Branch, on June 8, 2019

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who would devote their life's work and purpose to community service, contributing to the welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Wimberly Edwards upon the occasion of being named a Legacy Honoree by the National Association of University Women, Brooklyn Branch, to be celebrated at its 65th Anniversary Scholarship and Awards Brunch on Saturday, June 8, 2019, at Top Civic Center, Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, Wimberly Edwards will receive this auspicious award in recognition of her 50 or more years of steadfast and unwavering service to the Brooklyn Branch of the National Association of University Women; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1910 and incorporated in 1924, the mission of the National Association of University Women (NAUW) is to serve women, youth and the disadvantaged in the communities of this nation, as well as in developing countries, by addressing educational issues, advancing the status of women's issues, and strategically partnering with allied organizations; and

WHEREAS, Wimberly Edwards has been a member of the NAUW Brooklyn Branch for more than 50 years and continues to be an active member, counselor and advisor; she has kindly shared her home for many years to host meetings in her "green room" as a gracious, witty hostess, and she is currently serving as the organization's meticulous Financial Secretary; and

WHEREAS, With an extensive educational background and decades of service to her community, Wimberly Edwards received her Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy from New York University in 1956; she went on to earn a Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from Boston University in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, driven by her lifelong love of Occupational Therapy, Wimberly Edwards attended higher education courses at Boston University, New York University, Ohio State University and the University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Following her undergraduate and graduate studies, Wimberly Edwards taught Occupational Therapy at several institutions; she was a Clinical Instructor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, an

Instructor at Downstate Medical Center, and Associate Professor at York College, City University of New York; and

WHEREAS, Fiercely proud of her African-American heritage and Southern roots, Wimberly Edwards was a Co-Founder of the National Black O.T. Caucus, as well as the New York State Black O.T. Caucus; she has served on the Board for the Education of People of African Ancestry since 1970, and is on the Executive Board for the Elders House in Selma, Alabama, where she travels every year; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she was instrumental in the founding of one of the first College Fairs in Brooklyn, which is still hosted each November at the Bedford Central Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Wimberly Edwards has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It has always been the objective of this Legislative Body to honor and support those individuals who have displayed their commitment to the betterment of their communities, and it is the intent of this Legislative Body to inscribe upon its records, this tribute to Wimberly Edwards, that future generations may know and appreciate her admirable character, her many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which she is held by her peers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Wimberly Edwards upon the occasion of being named a Legacy Honoree by the National Association of University Women, Brooklyn Branch; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Wimberly Edwards.