

BY: Senator PARKER

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and USA Swimming upon the occasion of hosting the Swim 1922 Water Safety Clinic on June 22, 2019

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and USA Swimming upon the occasion of hosting the Swim 1922 Water Safety Clinic; and

WHEREAS, This important event will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019, in the Thomas S. Murphy Clubhouse at the Madison Square Boys & Girls Club in Brooklyn, New York; it will feature Olympic swimmer Maritza McClendon; and

WHEREAS, Swim 1922 is the partnership between USA Swimming and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. created to increase swim participation and decrease preventable drowning rates within the African-American community by engaging local communities with swimming programming; and

WHEREAS, In keeping with USA Swimming's core objectives: Build the Base, Promote the Sport, Achieve Competitive Success and the Sigma Gamma Rho motto of Greater Service, Greater Progress, these organizations have come together to affect change and influence the community of black women and girls; and

WHEREAS, Olympians and members of the sorority teach the community about water safety and how to swim; this vital partnership has touched close to 20,000 lives directly with the projection of changing multiple generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Through its tireless efforts, Sigma Gamma Rho has reduced the level of fear and apprehension within the African-American community regarding water safety in general and swimming specifically; and

WHEREAS, This joint venture has truly opened minds, changed attitudes, provided opportunities and opened doors for youth and adults; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this 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 commend Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and USA Swimming upon the occasion of hosting the Swim 1922 Water Safety Clinic on June 22, 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and USA Swimming.