

BY: Senator BROUK

COMMENDING Dr. David Anderson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those individuals within the Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who inspire others through their model citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David Anderson has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Dr. David Anderson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, A beloved citizen of Rochester, New York, Dr. David Anderson has dedicated his life to teaching and preserving the legacy and history of African American ancestry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David Anderson is a nationally recognized historian in Black history, renowned Frederick Douglass reenactor and serves on the Frederick Douglass Commission, is a founding member of Black Storytelling League and of Akwaaba: the Heritage Associates which shares African American lore across the United States and Ghana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David Anderson helped establish the United States Colored Troops Living History Association and is the Senior Fellow for the United States Colored Troops Institute for Local History and Family Research; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable gentleman also served as Chair of the Rochester/Monroe County Freedom Trail Commission and has actively been involved with the Rochester Kwanzaa Coalition and the 150 Ancestors Project for many years; and

WHEREAS, For his incredible legacy and long-term contributions to the public understanding and appreciation of African American history, culture, and heritage, Dr. David Anderson was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from Black Men Achieve and was honored by the National Association for African American Studies and Affiliates (NAAAS) at Nazareth College, where he was a visiting scholar; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Dr. David Anderson has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. David Anderson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. David Anderson.