

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Medina Temple No. 19 upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Ball Weekend, honoring Illustrious Potentate Patrick E. Ryner

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 Medina Temple No. 19 upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Ball Weekend honoring Illustrious Potentate Patrick E. Ryner, to be celebrated November 1-3, 2024, in Sleepy Hollow, New York; and

WHEREAS, Medina Court was organized as Naja Court No. 11 in the Desert of New York, Oasis of Manhattan, on October 11, 1909; Bessie Little, assisted by Francis Butler and 14 members formed a chapter which was warranted by Medina Temple No. 19, A.E.A.O.N.M.S. of North and South America, and Past Imperial Potentate Eugene Phillips (1910-1913) was the Illustrious Potentate of Medina Temple No. 19 at the time; and

WHEREAS, The Imperial Grand Council of Prince Hall Shriners was organized in Chicago, Illinois on June 10, 1893, led by John G. Jones and Grand Potentate; on December 12, 1900, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Imperial Council was reorganized with a new name, the Imperial Council of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of The Mystic Shrine, North and South America and Its Jurisdictions, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, In August of 1893, Medina Temple received its original warrant and was the third temple organized; and

WHEREAS, In 1906, Medina Temple was re-warranted and given the number 19; today, they are officially Medina Temple No. 19; and

WHEREAS, Three sons of Medina No. 19 have had the honor and privilege of serving the Noble order as Imperial Potentates; they are Eugene Phillips (1910 to 1913); Harry Knight (1931 to 1935); and Charles A. Dargan (1969 to 1971); and

WHEREAS, Medina Temple No. 19 has been well served by many famous and outstanding nobles such as Matthew A. Henson, an explorer, who served with Admiral Perry on the trip to the North Pole; A. Phillip Randolph, a civil rights and religious leader; Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. politician, civil rights and religious leader; John W. Davis, presidential advisor, educator, and civil rights leader; Thurgood Marshall, a civil rights legal pioneer and Supreme Court Judge; Reverend Calvin Butts, religious leader; William J. Richardson, businessman, Vice President of the Schieffelin & Somerset Company; Dick Gidron,

businessman and philanthropist; Milton Hinton, noted jazz musician; and Hilton Jefferson, musician and composer; and

WHEREAS, Today, we honor Illustrious Potentate Patrick E. Ryner, who has joined the tradition of these great men and leads this distinguished organization with grace and dedication; may his good works echo through the history of Medina Court No. 19 and inspire those who follow in his lauded footsteps; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when organizations and 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 Medina Temple No. 19 upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Ball Weekend, honoring Illustrious Potentate Patrick E. Ryner; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Medina Temple No. 19 and Illustrious Potentate Patrick E. Ryner.