Senate Resolution No. 1532

BY: Senator PARKER

MOURNING the death of Reverend Clinton Miller, beloved man of faith, visionary pastor, educator, and devoted servant to the Brooklyn community

WHEREAS, There are certain outstanding individuals whose lives of faith, leadership, and service profoundly enrich the spiritual and civic fabric of our communities; through his unwavering devotion to ministry, commitment to justice, and dedication to uplifting others, Reverend Clinton Miller was one such individual; and

WHEREAS, It is with profound sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Reverend Clinton Miller, a respected clergyman, mentor, and community leader whose life was marked by faith, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to Christian service; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Clinton Miller was born in Brooklyn, New York, and pursued his academic studies with distinction, earning a Bachelor of Arts in History from Southern Connecticut State University, reflecting an early commitment to scholarship, reflection, and service; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Clinton Miller first felt the divine calling to gospel ministry at the age of 19, and while he initially pursued other paths, he ultimately answered that call while he was a seminarian at Yale University where his theological formation prepared him for a lifetime of pastoral leadership; and

WHEREAS, Upon his graduation from divinity school in 1994, Reverend Clinton Miller continued his ministerial training as an intern minister at the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, New York City, under the guidance of the Reverend Calvin O. Butts, later serving as youth minister and deepening his commitment to nurturing faith among younger generations; and

WHEREAS, Prior to entering full-time ministry, Reverend Clinton Miller served as an educator in the New York City public school system for four years, exemplifying his lifelong commitment to teaching, mentorship, and empowerment of young people; and

WHEREAS, In October of 2000, Reverend Clinton Miller was called to serve as Pastor of Brown Memorial Baptist Church in Brooklyn, a role he embraced with vision, humility, and devotion, faithfully shepherding the congregation through preaching, counseling, visitation, and pastoral care; and

WHEREAS, Since assuming the pastorate at Brown Memorial Baptist Church, Reverend Clinton Miller applied the principles of traditional ministry to meet the evolving needs of his congregation, setting a spiritual tone that strengthened worship, fostered inclusive fellowship, and supported the realization of the church's long-term vision; and

WHEREAS, Under Reverend Clinton Miller's leadership, Brown Memorial Baptist Church experienced significant growth and renewal, including the construction of a fellowship hall, renovation of the sanctuary, establishment of a community development corporation, and planning of new educational programs, a summer day camp, and a long-awaited banquet facility within the newly built church annex; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Clinton Miller's pastoral vision centered on stabilizing and strengthening the ministry through consistent Christian service, sound preaching, responsible stewardship, and strong financial administration while advancing a mission dedicated to dynamic worship, relevant Christian education, inclusive fellowship, and impactful evangelism; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Clinton Miller extended his service beyond the pulpit through leadership on numerous civic and nonprofit boards, including the Harlem YMCA and the Bedford-Stuyvesant YMCA, and service as chaplain for the New York Liberty of the Women's National Basketball Association, offering spiritual guidance at the intersection of faith, athletics, and community life; and

WHEREAS, Ordained by the American Baptist Churches and the United Missionary Baptist Association of Greater New York, Reverend Clinton Miller grounded his ministry in Christian principles of fairness, justice, compassion, and cultivation of genuine Christian community, leaving a lasting and meaningful legacy; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Clinton Miller is lovingly remembered by his family, the congregation of Brown Memorial Baptist Church, friends, colleagues, and countless individuals whose lives were enriched by his ministry, leadership, and example of faithful service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the passing of Reverend Clinton Miller and to honor his enduring legacy of faith, leadership, and service to the Brooklyn community and beyond; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body extend its deepest condolences to the family of Reverend Clinton Miller, the congregation of Brown Memorial Baptist Church, and all those who were privileged to know him and obtain guidance through his ministry; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Reverend Clinton Miller.