

**BY:** Senator PARKER

**HONORING** Felicia Penn upon the occasion of being recognized at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Visionary Awards Gala

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those individuals whose professional excellence, visionary leadership, and commitment to community empowerment reflect the enduring ideals of service and uplift embodied by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Felicia Penn upon the occasion of her recognition at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Visionary Awards Gala to be held on Sunday, March 22, 2026; and

**WHEREAS,** Felicia Penn, born and raised in Jamaica, Queens, New York, has distinguished herself as a highly accomplished sonography professional whose career is defined by compassion, technical excellence, and a steadfast dedication to patient care and education; and

**WHEREAS,** Felicia Penn pursued her academic training at LaGuardia Community College, where she earned academic honors and induction into the prestigious Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, reflecting both scholarly achievement and personal discipline; and

**WHEREAS,** Demonstrating extraordinary perseverance, Felicia Penn completed her rigorous sonography training while working full-time and raising her two sons, a testament to her resilience, work ethic, and unwavering commitment to building a better future for her family and community; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon joining New York City Health and Hospitals, Felicia Penn's clinical expertise, professionalism, and leadership abilities were quickly recognized, leading to her rapid advancement from Staff Sonographer to Supervisor of Ultrasound within just a few years; and

**WHEREAS,** In her supervisory capacity, Felicia Penn identified a critical workforce challenge, the fact that many newly graduated sonographers experienced skill atrophy while awaiting licensure due to limited scanning opportunities, often resulting in diminished confidence and barriers to employment; and

**WHEREAS,** Motivated by a desire to close this gap and uplift the next generation of healthcare professionals, Felicia Penn founded Gentle Touch Sono Lab, an innovative training facility dedicated to providing graduates with essential hands-on scanning experience; and

**WHEREAS,** Through Gentle Touch Sono Lab, Felicia Penn has created a

pathway for emerging sonographers to rebuild technical proficiency, restore professional confidence, and successfully secure meaningful careers in the medical imaging field; and

**WHEREAS,** Felicia Penn's work stands as a powerful example of healthcare leadership rooted not only in clinical excellence but also in mentorship, workforce development, and community advancement; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Felicia Penn, upon the occasion of her recognition at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Visionary Awards Gala, and to commend her for her outstanding contributions to healthcare, education, and professional empowerment; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Felicia Penn as a lasting expression of the highest respect and admiration of this Legislative Body.