

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson upon the occasion of his recognition at The Positive Community Media's 6th Annual Great American Emancipation Day Awards Celebration on February 22, 2025

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend outstanding individuals whose faith, leadership, and service have made a profound impact on their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church, upon the occasion of his recognition at The Positive Community Media's 6th Annual Great American Emancipation Day Awards Celebration on Saturday, February 22, 2025; and

WHEREAS, As a visionary faith leader, civil rights advocate, and community builder, Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson has led Grace Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, New York, for more than 50 years, expanding its reach beyond the sanctuary to uplift the lives of countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, A powerful voice for justice, Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson serves as Chairman of the Conference of National Black Churches and Chairman of the National Action Network, championing equity, economic empowerment, and the moral responsibility of faith communities; and

WHEREAS, Through his dynamic preaching and unwavering commitment to education, housing, and social justice, Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson has been a beacon of hope, inspiring generations to live with purpose and compassion; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper that this Legislative Body recognize the extraordinary contributions of Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson and commend him for his unwavering dedication to faith and service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church, upon the occasion of his recognition at The Positive Community Media's 6th Annual Great American Emancipation Day Awards Celebration; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson.