

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Uplifting Real Initiatives upon the occasion of hosting its 2025 URI Celebration: "Rise Up!" and honoring this year's esteemed honorees, Obina Escort and Aaliyah Duah

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and celebrate events and individuals that uplift, inspire, and strengthen the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its proud traditions, this Legislative Body is pleased to commend Uplifting Real Initiatives (URI) upon the occasion of hosting its 2025 URI Celebration: "Rise Up!" and honoring this year's esteemed honorees, Obina Escort and Aaliyah Duah, for their exemplary leadership and service; and

WHEREAS, The URI Celebration is an annual gathering that highlights transformative community efforts and honors trailblazers who are making meaningful contributions in the fields of wellness, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and social justice; and

WHEREAS, Obina Escort, founder of Obina Holistic Brands, has made a lasting impact through her commitment to holistic health and wellness, empowering individuals to embrace natural healing, cultural pride, and personal transformation through her entrepreneurial vision and community-centered outreach; and

WHEREAS, Aaliyah Duah, founder of Financial Revolutionn, has been a leading voice in financial empowerment and education, providing innovative tools, resources, and advocacy to help communities-particularly youth and marginalized populations-build generational wealth and economic resilience; and

WHEREAS, Both honorees exemplify the spirit of the "Rise Up!" theme through their dedication to empowerment, equity, and the betterment of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Events such as the URI Celebration serve to uplift voices of purpose and progress, and honor those who continue to rise as beacons of hope, healing, and leadership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Uplifting Real Initiatives upon the occasion of hosting its 2025 URI Celebration: "Rise Up!" and honoring this year's esteemed honorees, Obina Escort and Aaliyah Duah for their extraordinary service and impact; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Obina Escort, Aaliyah Duah, and the organizers of the

2025 URI Celebration in recognition of this outstanding occasion.