2023-K789

Assembly Resolution No. 789

BY: M. of A. Cook

HONORING Rev. Joseph N. Felix upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Lincoln-King Visionary Award for his commitment and service to his community

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Felix has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rev. Joseph N. Felix upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Lincoln-King Visionary Award for his commitment and service to his community, to be celebrated at the Lincoln-King Visionary Awards Gala, "From Dream to Greatness," on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at the Sand Castle in Franklin Square, New York; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious community gala is held annually to unite the international community and to celebrate unity in diversity while recognizing community leaders for their services; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Felix has been called upon to contribute his time

and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Having grown in popularity as a young dynamic and anointed preacher and youth leader, Joseph Felix started his first church plant in New Hampshire in 1995 and ministered for two years until moving to New York; and

WHEREAS, Born on May 9, 1965 in Aux Cayes, Haiti, Joseph Felix had a fervor and enthusiasm for church in preaching and prayer services from a young age;

WHEREAS, With humble beginnings, at the remarkable age of 14, Joseph Felix began leading services under coconut leaves in tents; at 17 years old, he had a church built with brick in Tonbek with a capacity of 400 people; later, at age 25, he founded another church in the same region, Tonbek George, with a capacity of 800 people; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Felix would also later build an adjoining school in Tonbek in 2008; after graduating from Cevique College, he started his ministerial education at Mission L'Eglise de Dieu (Church of God Mission); with bigger dreams in mind, he received a visa to travel to France before eventually traveling to the United States and residing in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, Joseph Felix founded his main branch Church of God Faith in Christ, which started as a modest gathering of 40 members and grew over time to more than 100 members; the Church now resides at 1238

Flatbush Avenue and is recognized for its Thursday morning fasting services where miracles and healings are performed; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, Joseph Felix opened a church in Naples, Florida for about 4 years; then, in 2018, he opened another church in Aux Cayes with a capacity of 350 people; and

WHEREAS, Not only was he diligent in serving his religious community, Joseph Felix also was arduous in his studies; from 1992 to 2010, Joseph Felix worked on his academic career obtaining a certificate from Mt. Olive Bible Institute, and his bachelors, masters and doctorate degrees in theology from Lighthouse Christian Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Joseph N. Felix is known for his dynamic preaching, dedication to serve, integrity, work ethic, restlessness, energetic footwork and most of all his charitable heart which has helped and encouraged so many, like his commitment with various relief efforts in his missionary work to Haiti; and

WHEREAS, Besides his domestic travels in the States, Rev. Joseph N. Felix has also traveled and ministered in countries like France, Canada, and Dominican Republic; even during Haiti's current tumultuous and dangerous conditions, he traveled, ministered and assisted his ailing community in Aux Cayes; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout since 1993 has been his wife, Geraldine Felix, his son, Benjamin, and his two daughters, Kestia and Daniella, all of whom feel privileged to have been a part of his life and rejoiced in his many achievements; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Rev. Joseph N. Felix has stood constant in dignity, good grace, and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an

individual for the benefit of others which Rev. Joseph N. Felix has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It has always been the objective of this Legislative Body to honor and support those individuals who have displayed their commitment to the betterment of their communities, and it is the intent of this Legislative Body to inscribe upon its records, this tribute to Rev. Joseph N. Felix, that future generations may know and appreciate his admirable character, his many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which he is held by his peers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rev. Joseph N. Felix upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Lincoln-King Visionary Award for his commitment and service to his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rev. Joseph N. Felix.