

2009-J388

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins for her dedicated service as President of Suffolk County Community College

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; its history and stature are secured by the superlative caliber of its educational professionals and the students they inspire; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of those outstanding educational leaders, whose dedication and achievements have been instrumental in developing character and academic excellence in the young people of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins for her dedicated service as President of Suffolk County Community College; and

WHEREAS, An East Chicago, Indiana native, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins was the first woman and the first African-American to serve as President of Suffolk County Community College, the largest multi-campus community college in the State University of New York system; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins, Suffolk County Community College increased enrollment, developed a strategic languages initiative, enhanced safety and security and achieved academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins came to Suffolk County Community College from Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, Virginia, where she served as President for eight years; prior to that, she served as a Vice President and Dean of Adult and Continuing Education at Westchester Community College and Director of its Corporate Education Program; and

WHEREAS, Working in both the public and private sectors, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins has more than 25 years of leadership, management, consulting, teaching and faculty development experience; and

WHEREAS, During 1991, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins served in South Africa, through the United States Information Agency, as an Academic Specialist assisting educators in exploring alternative models of higher

education, including community colleges; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins has also participated in the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference and served on the American Association of Community Colleges' Commission on International/Intercultural Services and the Guidance and Admission Assembly Council of the national organization, the College Board; and

WHEREAS, The quintessential educational leader, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins is a member of the executive committee of the board of the American Association of Community Colleges and serves as the chair of their audit and finance committee, as well as being the past chair of the American Council on Education's Commission on Women in Higher Education and a member of the Board of Trustees of Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, New York; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins earned her doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia University and has completed studies at Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management; she received her bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, where she graduated as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa national honor society, and holds master's degrees from the University of Illinois and Manhattanville College in New York; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring gener-

ations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the Suffolk County Community College, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for her impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins for her dedicated service as President of Suffolk County Community College, and for her significant contributions to education in New York State; and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins.