

## 2009-J4384

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik upon the occasion of his installation as the spiritual leader of Temple Beth El of Manhattan Beach

WHEREAS, Spiritual guidance and nurturing are of great import to the vitality and well-being of all people and every community of this great State and nation; and

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in New York State are nourished and fulfilled through the concern and selfless devotion of those, such as, Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik, who dedicate their purposeful lives in service to their faith and to the enhancement of the quality of life of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik upon the occasion of his installation as the spiritual leader of the esteemed Temple Beth El of Manhattan Beach located on West End Avenue in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik will be welcomed by the congregation and installed as its Rabbi in a moving ceremony to be held in the synagogue's Main Sanctuary on Wednesday, March 24, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Kupchik brings to Temple Beth El a wide range of experience, knowledge, energy and a beautiful singing voice; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his affiliation with Temple Beth El, he served congregations in Leonia, New Jersey and Peekskill, New York, and the Brandeis School in Lawrence, New York; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Kupchik was ordained at the Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he was born; he also earned an M.D. degree from the University of Buenos Aires Medical School; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Kupchik, in addition, studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York City, where he earned a Master of Arts degree in Talmud and Rabbinic Literature and was awarded the Saul Lieberman Graduate Fellowship in Talmudic Studies; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik is married to Ann-Rebecca Laschever and they are the proud parents of two children, Jacob and Simon; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his rabbinical career, Rabbi Kupchik has initiated many innovative programs including Rabbi's Rovers, a group which combined prayer and singing with nature walks; Project Dialogue, an interfaith and interracial group promoting friendship and cooperation; and Shabbateeny, a Shabbat experience geared to nursery school age children; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Kupchik also instituted Spark-Heartaction, a program which included teenagers and adults in Jewish learning at the synagogue in combination with visits to residents of the nearby New York State Veterans Nursing Home, where he also generously and ably served as Chaplain; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Kupchik has, in addition, always been very involved in interfaith dialogue and community affairs having served as both Vice President and President of the Peekskill Area Pastors' Association (PAPA) and as Co-chair of the Task Force on Diversity established by the Town of Cortlandt Manor, New York; and

WHEREAS, The true architects of society and community are those whose faith and unrelenting commitment serve to sustain and enhance the spiritual and cultural values of life; Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik has distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the congregations and communities he has served; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his worthy endeavors, this Legislative Body is pleased to commend the distinguished accomplishments of Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik and to join with Temple Beth El in welcoming him, and his

family, to Manhattan Beach and Brooklyn; now, therefore, be it  
RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to  
honor Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik upon the occasion of his installation as  
the spiritual leader of Temple Beth El of Manhattan Beach on March 24,  
2010, and to extend to him the heartfelt best wishes of this Legislative  
Body for a future of continued purposeful success and well-being; and be  
it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rabbi Claudio J. Kupchik.