

2011-J4138

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Loretta Smith-Stanley upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Senior Advocate Award

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Loretta Smith-Stanley upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Senior Advocate Award, to be celebrated at the 5th Annual Men of Distinction and Women of Valor Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 17, 2012; and

WHEREAS, The Men of Distinction and Women of Valor Awards Ceremony is held each year to honor and pay just tribute to outstanding individuals whose leadership roles have had a significant impact on the daily lives of the people of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Loretta Smith-Stanley was born to Warren and Sadie B. Smith, in St. Louis, Missouri; she is the sixth of 10 children which includes five sisters and four brothers; she graduated from Florissant Valley College, where she majored in community service; and

WHEREAS, In 1975, Ms. Smith came to New York where she began her career at Tabernacle Education Action; she worked with youth and the community to create outreach programs, improve the neighborhood, feed the homeless, and provide services to the elderly; and

WHEREAS, In 1978, Loretta Smith-Stanley continued her community service as Assistant Director at Van Dyke Community Center, an after school program and summer day camp; she provided assistance in tutoring, special trips, and counseling, as well as gave support to the youth workers; when the program relocated to Lafayette Garden Community Center's after school program, she became an Acting Director; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith began her career with the elderly at Tompkins Park

Senior Center, under the sponsorship of Bhrags; she was later employed as Director of the Fenimore Senior Center, where she developed and explored new horizons by presenting diverse opportunities such as the Helen Keller Senior Center for the Blind, the College Work Study Program and the District Attorney's Office-Community Service Program; and WHEREAS, In 1992, Ms. Smith served as interim employee at Van Dyke II Senior Center; in February 1993, Wayside Baptist Church became the new sponsor and she was appointed its Director, using her special talents and creative skills to develop a positive program; and

WHEREAS, Under her leadership, Loretta Smith-Stanley has motivated and inspired seniors to participate in the day to day activities, such as a nutritional breakfast and lunch, educational and social activities, and entitlement services; and

WHEREAS, Loretta Smith-Stanley feels that one of her best attributes is counseling; she finds that counseling is an intricate tool that each senior needs for encouragement due to their special needs and most importantly, she finds that laughter and affection are joint ventures for herself as well as the seniors; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her children, Lenika, Dienna, Jessica, and Vanessa, as well as two granddaughters, Appollonia and Chloe', all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Loretta Smith-Stanley upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Senior Advocate Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Loretta Smith-Stanley.