

## 2011-J5324

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Archbishop Phillip Lewis for his outstanding pastoral service and unwavering commitment to the Brooklyn community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Archbishop Phillip Lewis for his outstanding pastoral service and unwavering commitment to the Brooklyn community; and

WHEREAS, The Most Reverend Father Archbishop Phillip Lewis was born in Guyana, South America; as a young boy, he was very quiet and he loved to preach; and

WHEREAS, Baptized at the age of nine and ordained a Priest in 1967, Archbishop Lewis left Guyana and migrated to England in 1968; his love for preaching led him to be initiated as an elder at the age of 19, which he then took his first Throne of Grace in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Archbishop Lewis spent 25 years living in England and during that time, he was a representative of the Council of Churches of Britain and Ireland Assembly (CCBI); he also joined the Ethiopian Orthodox Coptic of North and South America, both of which he is no longer a member; and

WHEREAS, In 1975, Archbishop Lewis was consecrated in the National Evangelical Spiritual Baptist Archdiocese as Bishop in Trinidad and Tobago; a few years later in 1982, the then Bishop Lewis was elevated to Metropolitan Archbishop in coordination with Apostolic Episcopal Church; after leaving England, he traveled to Canada where he established a branch of St. Jermaine Spiritual Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Since 1995, Archbishop Lewis has served as the Metropolitan Primate of St. John's Apostolic Spiritual For All People Church; he is the former 1st Vice President of the United Christian Spiritual Council of Guyanese Churches Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, Archbishop Lewis is also the head of several other churches including St. John's Sixth Church Of Melchizedek in New York, and the Seventh Church of Melchizedek founded on March 25, 1968; he remains very active in the Caribbean community today; and

WHEREAS, Archbishop Lewis 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, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Archbishop Lewis has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Archbishop Phillip Lewis for his outstanding pastoral service and unwavering commitment to the Brooklyn community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Archbishop Phillip Lewis.