

2015-J1379

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the prestigious Mother's Day Award by the National Action Network and Gateway Christian Center

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals within the State of New York who give of their time and energies in support of spiritual endeavors which aim to benefit the community at large; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the prestigious Mother's Day Award by the National Action Network and Gateway Christian Center, to be celebrated at its Government Gala Awards Ceremony, on Sunday, May 10, 2015, at Jericho Terrace, Mineola, New York; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious award is given to women who have demonstrated exemplary works, services, and commitment to the people of their communities; Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu truly deserves this honor for her contributions to her Brooklyn neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu was born on December 30, 1942, to Prince Lazarus and Margret Egbuchulam in Umunoha, Imo State Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, In 1966, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu and her Diplomat husband, as well as her two children, traveled to the United States; the family decided to remain in America in order to start a new life; and

WHEREAS, 20 years later, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu's husband passed away, and she became a single mother to her four children; it was important to her that her children earned college degrees, which would allow them to be successful in life; and

WHEREAS, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu received a Professional Certificate in Education from the Teachers College in Nigeria; she then went on to obtain a Diploma in Dietetics from New York Institute of Dietetics; and

WHEREAS, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu furthered her education by earning both a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology, and a Master's degree in

Early Childhood Education from Brooklyn College; in addition, she received a School of Administration and Supervision (SAS) Certificate from Fordham University; and

WHEREAS, For four decades, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu was employed in the early childhood education field; throughout her tenure, she held many positions, such as teacher, director, and educational consultant; in each role, she positively impacted the lives of children, parents, and educational professionals through her superior knowledge and guidance; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu was ordained into the ministry as an Evangelist; for over 35 years, she served her Brooklyn church in many vital ways, including chalice administrator, lay reader, vestry member, trustee, and pastoral caregiver; and

WHEREAS, As an Evangelist, Princess Grace N. Osuagwu volunteered as a poll worker in her neighborhood, and today, she holds the position of Chairperson of the region; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu has been an active participant of the Igbo Organization, serving as both a Board and rescue team member for building development; and

WHEREAS, For the past 15 years, Evangelist Grace N. Osuagwu has taken regular missionary trips to her native Nigeria, providing food, medicine, clothes, and money to widows in the community; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu is a strong advocate against violence towards women; she offers newly migrated Nigerian women counseling, childcare referrals, education, and guidance in securing employment; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for her generous service to her community in her hometown of Nigeria, where she was recognized with a rare Chieftaincy Title; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, her four children established The Grace N. Osuagwu Education Foundation in honor of their mother's philanthropic works; this entity provides monetary resources to educate today's youth so they may become thriving citizens; and

WHEREAS, Today, Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu, also known as Queen Mother 1, is retired from her tenure as an educator; she volunteers her time as a vital member of the National Action Network, one of

the leading civil rights organizations in the Nation, with chapters throughout the United States; 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 this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the prestigious Mother's Day Award by the National Action Network and Gateway Christian Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Evangelist Princess Grace N. Osuagwu, the National Action Network, and the Gateway Christian Center.