

## 2015-J1381

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Evangelist Michelle E. Richards-Phillips 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 Michelle E. Richards-Phillips 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 Michelle E. Richards-Phillips truly deserves this honor for her contributions to the people of South Florida and her neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Michelle E. Richards was born on July 9, 1967, to Gwendolyn and Roy Richards in Jamaica; she later earned her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in Kingston, Jamaica; and

WHEREAS, For several years, Michelle E. Richards-Phillips was employed by two major banking institutions in Jamaica, holding several different managerial titles; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, Michelle E. Richards-Phillips moved to the United States and began working as a Personal Banker for Bank of America; she

quickly rose through the ranks and held the esteemed position of Bank Account Executive in charge of 17 banking centers and their loans; and WHEREAS, Michelle E. Richards-Phillips was then promoted to the leadership role of Vice-President of Mortgages; in 2010, she left Bank of America to pursue other aspirations; and WHEREAS, Today, Evangelist Michelle E. Richards-Phillips has embarked on a new career speaking to individuals and organizations about managing their finances using a Biblical perspective; she empowers people by assisting them in becoming financially secure; and WHEREAS, In 2003, Michelle E. Richards-Phillips was baptized in her church, and was later ordained into the ministry as an Evangelist in 2006; and WHEREAS, As an Evangelist, Michelle E. Richards-Phillips and her husband Minister Ralston Phillips established Visions International Ministries in 2008; this vital organization has donated substantial funds to the homeless; and WHEREAS, Evangelist Michelle E. Richards-Phillips was nominated for the distinguished Local Heroes Award from the Bank of America Foundation for her philanthropic works; and WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Minister Ralston Phillips, and her three daughters, Shawnelle, Ashley, and Mikala, 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 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 Michelle E. Richards-Phillips 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 Michelle E. Richards-Phillips, the National Action Network, and the Gateway Christian Center.