

## 2015-J1383

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith 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, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith 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; Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith truly deserves this honor for her contributions to the citizens of Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith was born in 1948, to Mr. and Mrs. Akpani in Ibusa Delta, Nigeria; she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Roosevelt University, Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith furthered her education by receiving a diploma in both Legal Secretarial studies and Travel and Tourism from Pitman College, London; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from college, Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith was employed as a Travel Agent; in 1975, she moved back to Nigeria to start the Bon Voyage Travel Agency, specializing in full-suite travel manage-

ment services; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its 35 years of service, the Bon Voyage Travel Agency has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades from major airlines, tour operators, and several other companies in Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith also opened the Hotel Bon Voyage in Nigeria, which has also received many honors; and

WHEREAS, Active in her community, Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith has helped many people in numerous ways, including feeding and clothing less fortunate elderly citizens and children who reside in orphanage homes, counseling wrongly detained Nigerian prisoners, creating jobs for unemployed youths and adults, giving marital advice, and housing the homeless; 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 Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith 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 Loretta Nwanyibunya Smith, the National Action Network, and the Gateway Christian Center.