

## 2015-J1517

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Gussie Johnson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Head Start Distinguished Service Award by the Capital District Child Care Council on April 22, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals of remarkable integrity and character whose endeavors have enhanced the quality of education in the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Gussie Johnson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Head Start Distinguished Service Award by the Capital District Child Care Council to be celebrated at its Semi-Annual Meeting and Head Start 50th Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at Wolfert's Roost Country Club, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1968, Gussie Johnson began employment as a Teacher with ACAP Head Start; for over 45 years, she has been a leader and powerful resource in the field of early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Gussie Johnson has worn many hats in the Head Start program, and has devoted her time and energies to creating a quality educational experience for children and their families; in addition to teaching, she is known to cook, clean, ride the bus, and is one of the top recruiters; and

WHEREAS, A hands-on teacher, as well as an advocate for children, Gussie Johnson has been instrumental in supporting efforts to increase funding and proper care for Head Start; she also shows her undivided dedication and respect for the education field by keeping her skills current through training and professional development; and

WHEREAS, For more than four decades, Gussie Johnson has had the opportunity to make a positive impact on her community by educating students, many of whom are now returning to the Head Start program to enroll their children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Gussie Johnson officially retired in 2010, but continues to serve as a mentor and substitute teacher for the Head Start program; her valued contributions and commitment to the program are second to none; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals in the teaching profession who distinguish themselves in their dedication and commitment to their students; and

WHEREAS, Gussie Johnson has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of the CEO Head Start, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for her impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her career thus far, Gussie Johnson has brought an uncompromising standard of excellence to her work and a warm sense of caring and concern to every young person she educates; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Gussie Johnson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Head Start Distinguished Service Award by the Capital District Child Care Council on April 22, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Gussie Johnson.