

2015-J2364

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Harold Tate upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday on May 16, 2015

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with his zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of his family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Harold Tate was born in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 16, 1915; he moved with his family to New York City, and has been a resident of Jamaica, Queens, for over 80 years; and

WHEREAS, In December of 1943, Harold Tate enlisted as a member of the United States Army to proudly serve his country during World War II; he was stationed in the Southern Philippines and Japan, where he attained the esteemed rank of Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his brave service, Harold Tate earned numerous military honors including the Philippines Liberation Ribbon, World War II Victory Medal, American Service Medal, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, Following his return to civilian life, Harold Tate served with the New York City Police Department (NYPD), becoming the first African American Sergeant in Harlem with the 32nd Precinct; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his service with the NYPD, this remarkable centenarian served as a United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, and often spent time at his boat docked in Brooklyn and Long Island; and

WHEREAS, A local entrepreneur, Harold Tate was also the owner of Tate's Liquor Store in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Harold Tate married his wife of 60 years, Florine in 1955,

and together they were the loving parents of one son, Michael, the loving grandparents of one grandson, Ian, and the devoted great-grandparents of three great-grandchildren; in addition, he has numerous nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, and great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews; and

WHEREAS, An avid fisherman and dedicated family man, Harold Tate enjoyed spending summers at his cabin with his son and nephew in Roscoe, New York, as well as fishing and rafting on Lake Irriwanda; he also enjoyed fishing on Sheepshead Bay for porgies and at Montauk Point for blue fish; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This beloved man has enriched the lives of those around him through his joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Harold Tate upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Harold Tate.