

2015-K627

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring The Reverend Peter Bramble after many years of distinguished service as Rector and Pastor of the Church of St. Mark, Brooklyn, New York

WHEREAS, The spiritual guidance and nurturing of the citizens of the State of New York is of great importance to the vitality and well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals of religious commitment who accept the responsibility of moral leadership and render the wisdom of human understanding; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor The Reverend Peter Bramble after many years of distinguished service as Rector and Pastor of the Church of St. Mark, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born in Harris, Montserrat, The Reverend Peter Bramble is a graduate of Codrington College and The University of the West Indies; he also holds two master's degrees from Yale Divinity School and a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Prior to coming to the Church of St. Mark's, The Reverend Peter Bramble distinguished himself as rector of St. Katherine of Alexandria Episcopal Church in Baltimore; he also initiated the Public Schools Uniform Project, which received national attention; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Peter Bramble was instrumental in developing the Penn North Plaza; he also acquired the largest day care facility in the City of Baltimore, and established BATGO, a program to reclaim troubled youth in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Since coming to Brooklyn in 1997, The Reverend Peter Bramble has served as Rector and Pastor of the Church of St. Mark; one of the

largest Episcopal parishes in the nation and the largest in the Diocese of Long Island; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious tenure, this esteemed man has continued to distinguish himself as a community leader; he oversaw the largest parochial day school in the Diocese, the St. Mark's Day School, and was President of four housing corporations which collectively provide over 300 units of housing to the elderly and the economically disadvantaged, as well as market rate housing; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to helping others in his community, The Reverend Peter Bramble led his church in joining the Brooklyn Ecumenical Credit Union, and established a food program for the homeless at the Church of St. Mark; furthermore, he acquired four properties in the neighborhood for expanded church ministries and recently opened the Church's second HUD 202 Housing project for the elderly; and

WHEREAS, An accomplished author, The Reverend Peter Bramble published the book, THE OVERCOME: A BLACK PASSOVER in which he argues for the introduction of major victory concepts in black thinking and life; he also started the BALTIMORE TIMES which has subsequently grown to include four community papers serving Annapolis, Prince Georges County, Baltimore City and Baltimore County; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous accolades and honors at the local, state, and national levels, The Reverend Peter Bramble was recognized with the 1989 Black Living Legends Award from the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters; he was also profiled on the front page of the People Section of the BALTIMORE SUN, as the "Entrepreneurial Priest"; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Joy, and their two children, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Peter Bramble will be long remembered for his many inspirational good works, and tremendous leadership; he continues

to be an inspirational leader and role model for all members of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor The Reverend Peter Bramble after many years of distinguished service as Rector and Pastor of the Church of St. Mark, noting his unrelenting and compassionate faith and his service to God, humanity, and his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Peter Bramble.