

2015-K851

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the life and accomplishments of Norman R. McConney, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, A native of Albany, New York, and a graduate of the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany, Norman R. McConney, Jr. cultivated a long-standing reputation as a community activist for African and Latino concerns; and

WHEREAS, Norman R. McConney, Jr. distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, From 1971-1975, Norman R. McConney, Jr. was the Assistant Dean for special programs at the State University of New York; he then proceeded to serve as Executive Director of the Office of the Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure as Executive Director, Norman R. McConney, Jr. successfully negotiated legislation to address the needs of economically disadvantaged and underrepresented populations of New York State; his achievements are evident in numerous state statutes, policies and budgets related to the area of economic development, youth programs, education, correction and health care; and

WHEREAS, To honor Norman R. McConney, Jr.'s outstanding leadership, SUNY College of Arts and Sciences at Geneseo, created the Norman McConney Leadership Award which is awarded to an outstanding student in the Access Opportunity Program; and

WHEREAS, Norman R. McConney, Jr. was also the prime architect of the New York State Science & Technology Program (STEP), which is one of the most successful programs in the country; this vital program prepares minority high school students for careers in science and medicine; and WHEREAS, In addition, Norman R. McConney, Jr. drafted legislation, currently in place for the Regents Professional Opportunity Scholarship Programs, which provides scholarships for minorities underrepresented in the licensed professions; he also developed and was the lead negotiator for the passage of the bill to create Nurse Practitioners in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Norman R. McConney, Jr. taught classes at the Graduate School for Political Management at both Baruch College in New York and George Washington University in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man was also one of the principal authors of the PEOPLE'S BUDGET and the NEW YORK STATE BUDGET EQUITY DOCUMENT, which analyzes the state's fiscal budget and its impact on minorities and the poor in the state of New York; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career Norman R. McConney Jr. received numerous awards and accolades including the New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus Man of the Year Award, the Greater New York Mental Retardation Community Service Award, and the Martin Luther King Commission Award, as well as the Legislative Leadership Award; moreover, he is also a graduate of the "Revson Fellow for the Future of the City of NY Program" of Columbia University in New York; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Norman R. McConney, Jr. leaves behind a legacy which will

long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Norman R. McConney, Jr.,

distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Norman R. McConney, Jr.