

2015-J3360

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Joy W. McDuffie, distinguished citizen, business owner and devoted member of her community

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

WHEREAS, Joy Wiley McDuffie, a lifelong resident of Buffalo, New York, died on Saturday, November 21, 2015, at the age of 59; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of Izzine Mullins Brice and Curtis Laster, Joy W. McDuffie was born on January 20, 1956, and was the third of 12 siblings; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Holy Angels Academy in 1972, Joy W. McDuffie earned an Associate's degree in Accounting at Erie Community College, a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Medaille College and a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University at Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Joy W. McDuffie began her illustrious career as a Business Analyst and Supervisor at Union Carbide's Linde Division; in 1991, she opened her own business, Club Joy, which she operated for more than 15 years; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed businesswoman also became the owner of Kensington Development Corporation of Western New York, a company which specializes in the purchase and restoration of homes in the community; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, Joy W. McDuffie joined the Western New York Law Center, where she was a Geographic Information Systems Analyst and Director of the Mortgage Default Program assisting homeowners facing foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated member of the Buffalo community, Joy W. McDuffie served as a leader in the Good Neighbor Planning Alliance, and as a member of the Joint Schools Construction Board; she also headed the Buffalo School District's Dropout Prevention Committee and was a board member of Preservation Buffalo Niagara; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous honors for her outstanding service, Joy W. McDuffie was honored with a local 2010 Women's History Month Award and the Second-Half Champions Award; and

WHEREAS, Joy W. McDuffie is survived by her parents, Izzine Mullins Brice and Curtis Laster; two sons, Jamar and Rashied; seven sisters, Judith, Tearah, Lisa, Karen, Kizzie, Tanya and Tammy; and two brothers, Orvin and Mark Anthony; as well as six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Joy W. McDuffie leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Joy W. McDuffie, distinguished citizen, business owner and devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Joy W. McDuffie.