

2015-J3745

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Reverend Richard Lawson, upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 25 years of distinguished service to the New Canaan Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who would commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals who distinguish themselves and the ministry through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Reverend Richard Lawson, upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 25 years of distinguished service to the New Canaan Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, As a young man, Richard Lawson was an active member of the Tabernacle Baptist Church; after graduating from Boys Vocational and Technical High School, he served his country proudly as a member of the United States Army for six years until he was honorably discharged in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Following the completion of his military service, this esteemed man joined the Pentecostal House of Prayer, where his father was Pastor; he began his preparations for the ministry by enrolling in the Manhattan Bible Institute; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduating from Manhattan Bible Institute, Reverend Lawson ably served as Vice-President of the Manhattan Bible Institute Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, With a strong desire to serve others, The Reverend Richard

Lawson joined the New Canaan Baptist Church as an Associate Minister; subsequently, he was ordained to be a licensed Baptist Preacher by the New Canaan Baptist Church Deacon Board; and

WHEREAS, In March of 1989, Reverend Richard Lawson was called as Pastor of the New Canaan Baptist Church where he has since served with loyalty, honor, and distinction; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Richard Lawson has brought to his ministry an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion, acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God has always given enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and has administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of all; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Ann, and their four children, Richard Jr., Craig, Donna, and Tresslyn, all of whom are proud to be part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when religious leaders of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend The Reverend Dr. Richard Lawson upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 25 years of distinguished service to the New Canaan Baptist Church, and to wish him all the best in his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Dr. Richard Lawson.