

2015-J4035

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum, ZT"L, distinguished citizen, religious leader and devoted member of his community

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

WHEREAS, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum, who filled the role of Rabbi of Congregation Bnai Israel of Linden Heights and Director of the Igud Harabanim, died on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, he faithfully served the congregation for numerous years; and

WHEREAS, In 1949, Gershon Tannenbaum was born in a DP camp in Windshheim, Germany, to Moshe Yaakov Tannenbaum and the former Chana Leah Yankelovitz; he is a descendent from a long line of prominent Rabbis, and a grandson of Netah Sorek; and

WHEREAS, As a baby, Gershon Tannenbaum and his parents immigrated to the United States in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Gershon Tannenbaum studied in Yeshiva Chasam Sofer, and Yeshiva Yerushalayim, and was a student of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, ZT"L; and

WHEREAS, As a young man, Gershon Tannenbaum attended Yeshiva R' Yitzchok Eichanan/Yeshiva University, and Yeshiva Hatefutzot/Diaspora Yeshiva, where he was the first Rabbi to be ordained into the Rabbinat in the reunited Jerusalem in 1968, by Rabbi Mordechai Goldstein; and

WHEREAS, After returning to New York, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum established Yeshiva Knesset Harabanim, and married the former Sarah Brana Scheiner; and

WHEREAS, Over the next few years Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum pursued various business ventures, and served as President of Congregation

Agudath Achim of 9th Avenue in Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to the community in which he so ably served, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum was involved in many organizations, including the Aleh Foundation, and the Guardnias of the Sick/Bikur Cholim of Boro Park, where he organized fundraisers and advocated on behalf of the Jewish community; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, this remarkable man became the Rabbi of Congregation Bnai Israel of Linden Heights in Brooklyn; throughout the years, he developed a warm, loving relationship with his worshippers and their extended families; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum also held the esteemed position of Director of the Igud Harabanim/Rabbinical Alliance of America, earning the greatest respect from his colleagues through its various programs and events; and

WHEREAS, Well loved by many readers, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum shared his thoughts as an author of the "Machberes" column, first in THE JEWISH PRESS, and then THE 5 TOWN JEWISH TIMES; he was also the co-author of the "Daf Yomi Highlights" column in THE JEWISH PRESS with Rabbi Jacob Klass; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum is survived by his wife, Sarah; his two sons, Rabbis Chaim Zev and Yitzchok Dov; two daughters, Bracha Holczer and Malky Haimoff; and one sister, Judy Kern; as well as many relatives; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum 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 always gave guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of all; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum 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 honor the life and accomplishments of Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum, ZT"L, and to express its deepest condolences to his family, colleagues and friends who mourn his passing; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Rabbi Gershon Tannenbaum, ZT"L.