

2015-J5036

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Maria T. Harrison, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her 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, Maria T. Harrison died on December 31, 2015, at the age of 56; born Maria T. Preite in Brooklyn, New York, she lived in Short Hills, New Jersey, for the past 25 years; and

WHEREAS, She graduated from St. John's University with a bachelor of arts degree, which led her to pursue a master's in education at Caldwell University; and

WHEREAS, Maria T. Harrison was a firm believer in the potential of others and dedicated her life to helping them achieve it; and

WHEREAS, Former New York City Mayor Ed Koch appointed her to serve on the N.Y.C. Commission on the Status of Women, where she advocated for gender equality through dialogue and policy proposals; and

WHEREAS, She later spent a decade as an elementary school teacher for Ecole Toussaint Louverture, a public elementary school in East Orange, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Maria T. Harrison distinguished herself in her profession and by her sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of her community; and

WHEREAS, Maria T. Harrison's commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her commitment to education, Maria T. Harrison was an active parishioner and a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of St.

Rose of Lima Church; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by her mother, Gloria Mercorella Preite, Maria T. Harrison is survived by her husband, Edmond Harrison; her two children, Meghan and E.J.; her father, Joseph Preite; and her brother, Ralph Preite; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Maria T. Harrison 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 Maria T. Harrison, distinguished citizen 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 Maria T. Harrison.