

## 2015-J5568

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Thomasina Laidley-Brown upon the occasion of being named a Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge and celebrate Women of Distinction who significantly add inspiration and encouragement to the people of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Thomasina Laidley-Brown upon the occasion of being named a Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Women of Distinction program was created in 1998 as part of our state celebration of Women's History Month to honor exemplary women from across New York State whose singular professional or personal achievements, commitment to excellence and accomplishments merit special recognition; honorees are selected from nominations submitted from across the state; and

WHEREAS, A native of Long Island, New York, Thomasina Laidley-Brown moved to the community of Ossining, New York in the mid-1980s, and has been an integral part of her community for over three decades; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Thomasina has become known for always being willing to assist other families in need, and has served at times, as an emergency babysitter to parents who require childcare; and

WHEREAS, A woman of faith, Thomasina Laidley-Brown has been actively involved with the Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church of Ossining, serving as a Pastor's Aide, and Soup Kitchen volunteer; and

WHEREAS, As a trustee with The Cooperative Scholarship Fund, Thomasina has worked diligently to help provide several scholarships per year to local African American high school graduates who are pursuing their

college degrees; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Thomasina Laidley-Brown has been a determined advocate for the strengthening of boating safety laws, and has strived to bring attention to the need for increased training and safety measures for individuals looking to obtain a boat license in New York State; and

WHEREAS, As a result of her tireless efforts, New York State signed into law a bill in 2013 requiring boat operators to complete training courses and meet boating safety requirements before obtaining a boating license; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her numerous children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, From the women's suffrage movement just over 150 years ago to the present day, women have played and continue to play a crucial role in adding strength, understanding, and inspiration to the diversity and quality of life of the people of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, New York State has been, and continues to be, the home to many distinguished women who have made their mark in history as pioneers in their field, therefore laying the foundation for women after them to succeed; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when remarkable women 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 congratulate Thomasina Laidley-Brown upon the occasion of being named a Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Thomasina Laidley-Brown.