

2015-J5791

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Joan L. Millman upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Congregation Mount Sinai on June 8, 2016

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Joan L. Millman upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Congregation Mount Sinai, to be celebrated at its Roaring '20s Spring Gala on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, in Brooklyn Heights, New York; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman, Assembly member for the 52nd District for more than 17 years between 1997 and 2014, served with great distinction and with a particular dedication to advocating on important issues facing seniors and youth in our state; and

WHEREAS, In that time, Joan L. Millman represented all or parts of the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, Boerum Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Carroll Gardens, Columbia Waterfront, Downtown Brooklyn, DUMBO, Fulton Ferry, Gowanus, Greenwood, Park Slope, Prospect Heights, Red Hook, South Slope, Sunset Park, and Vinegar Hill; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman served as Chair of the Elections Committee, leading the way on Election reforms in our state, and as Chair of the Assembly Standing Committee on Aging, upholding that committee's dedi-

cation to protecting seniors' quality of life, health, safety, and independence through legislative initiatives that created avenues for combating elder abuse, and expanded access to the Senior Citizen and Disability Rent Increase Exemptions; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman recognized the importance of connecting the 52nd Assembly District with available resources, organizing her annual Senior Resource Fair at St. Francis College, regular bus trips to the Fairway in Red Hook to assist seniors in grocery shopping, district office flu shot clinics that became neighborhood mainstays, and her summer reading programs that encouraged a lifelong love of learning; and

WHEREAS, Accessibility and availability to constituents was taken to new heights in her tenure; continuing the Smith Street storefront district office, and through her presence at nearly every major event in the district, Joan L. Millman could be seen at National Night Out, the Carroll Park tree lighting, Atlantic Antic, local precinct community council meetings, Brooklyn Bridge Park's Harvest Festival, the Cobble Hill Halloween Parade, and hosts of other community events, street fairs, library events, and graduations; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman also honored the legacy of her predecessor, Eileen C. Dugan, through her support of the annual Eileen C. Dugan Memorial 5K run and unparalleled commitment to the Eileen C. Dugan Senior Center, of which there has been no bigger cheerleader; and

WHEREAS, Also continuing the legacy of her predecessor, Joan L. Millman championed the creation of Brooklyn Bridge Park, one of New York's most celebrated public spaces, and helped to secure more park space, active recreation, the pop-up pool and Squibb Park Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Joan L. Millman took seriously her dedication and commitment to our most vulnerable citizens, young people with intellectual and

developmental disabilities, sponsoring and fighting for the passage of the legislation most dear to her heart, "Billy's Law," and thus ensuring that students with such disabilities would be protected against the

abuses suffered by Billy Albanese by requiring that facilities which educate and treat such children (including out-of-state facilities to which New York sends its students) are inspected before they are deemed eligible for state support, and are thereafter regularly inspected for such purposes, and by requiring that New York create and support more such facilities within New York, so as to increase and improve their monitoring and service provision; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her service, Joan L. Millman exemplified a deep commitment to public education and local schools, as well as a strong commitment to public libraries and access to cultural institutions in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Joan L. Millman has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Joan L. Millman has displayed throughout her life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Joan L. Millman upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Congregation Mount Sinai on June 8, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joan L. Millman.