

2015-J5793

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Reverend Dr. Kirkpatrick Cohall of Lenox Road Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating 20 years of Pastoral Ministry

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 Dr. Kirkpatrick Cohall of Lenox Road Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating 20 years of Pastoral Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Kirkpatrick Cohall earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint John's University in 1988, and within the next 12 years, he earned a Master of Divinity degree and Doctor of Divinity degree from New York Theological Seminary; in 2006, he obtained a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Fordham University Graduate School of Education; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Reverend Kirkpatrick Cohall serves as Dean, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Director of Religious Education at New York Theological Seminary, where he has also taught in the Sing Sing Correctional Facility Masters Degree program; previously, he served as Adjunct Professor in the Graduate School of Education at Fordham University and Saint John Fisher College; and

WHEREAS, After working in the field of educational leadership, administration and policy, and as a Medical Technologist at the Memorial Sloane Kettering Cancer Research Hospital in New York City, Reverend

Kirkpatrick Cohall answered the call to Pastoral Ministry and became Senior Pastor of the Lenox Road Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Kirkpatrick Cohall has exhibited visionary leadership in the urban community where his ministry is located; the community represents a diversity of individuals from across the City of New York as well as other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, During Reverend Kirkpatrick Cohall's leadership, the ministry has rebuilt a worship facility and developed an educational and recreational complex; the facility offers computer training, summer day camp, G.E.D. classes, a Bible Institute, basketball, and other recreational activities geared at keeping at-risk youth off the streets; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Lenox Road Baptist Church, under Reverend Kirkpatrick Cohall's luminous leadership, has developed several outreach programs such as health fairs, and marriage and family counseling, geared to the holistic empowerment of the family; he continues to work closely with community leaders, the police department and health facilities in addressing issues such as teenage pregnancies, youth gang activities and a host of health-related issues facing the community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Kirkpatrick Cohall 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, Dedicated to helping his community, Reverend Kirkpatrick Cohall served on several boards of institutions which continue to have a positive impact in the community and the Nation including Anchor House, a drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation center, and the general

board of the American Baptist Churches USA; he is a past President of the Board of International Ministries of the American Baptist Churches overseeing missionaries serving in six continents; 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, Sophia, and their two children, Shannon and Kirk, all of whom feel privileged 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. Kirkpatrick Cohall of Lenox Road Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating 20 years of Pastoral Ministry; and be it further

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