

2023-J1130

Senate Resolution No. 1130

BY: Senator RYAN

HONORING Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner upon the occasion of her retirement after over eight years of distinguished service to Buffalo State University

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner upon the occasion of her retirement after over eight years of distinguished service to Buffalo State University; and

WHEREAS, For the past over eight years, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner rendered faithful, conscientious, and valuable service to Buffalo State University, earning the admiration, esteem, and affection of her colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner earned her Ph.D. and Master of Arts degrees in social psychology, and her Bachelor of Arts degree in microbiology from the University of Kansas; her scholarship focuses on adult development and aging; the psychological impact of aging on family relations, health, and development; and women and intergenerational relationships; she is the author of numerous articles, chapters, books,

and book reviews; and

WHEREAS, Before coming to Buffalo State University in 2014, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner served in numerous roles in various colleges across the Nation, including Graduate Program Coordinator, Associate Dean, Dean, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs; and

WHEREAS, At Buffalo State University, President Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner oversaw and managed more than 1,500 faculty, staff, and administrators who provide more than 75 undergraduate and 60 graduate academic degree programs to 6,500 undergraduate and 1,000 graduate students each year; and

WHEREAS, Under Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner's valuable leadership, Buffalo State University reached new heights of excellence; in 2016, Buffalo State was among five colleges and universities from across the country chosen to share in the Washington Center's annual Higher Education Civic Engagement Awards; and

WHEREAS, The college also earned the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's Community Engagement Classification under Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner, accolades from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and recognition of excellence from AASCU; and

WHEREAS, In her true dedication to making lasting impacts, the University President established a signature event entitled "Bengals Dare to Care Day," an annual opportunity for hundreds of Buffalo State community members to provide service to 40 community agencies throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, A member of countless boards and committees, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner serves on the Distinguished Alumnus Award Search and Selection Committee for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, is a member of the Association of American Colleges and Universities' Presidents' Trust, as well as the review and selection panel for the American Council on Education Fellows Program, the Division III President's Council, the NCAA Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and is a Pathway Program mentor for the National Collegiate Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner is the vice chair and commissioner for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, which is the accrediting body for higher education institutions in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; she is the vice chair of the board of Campus Compact and member of the executive board of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities; and

WHEREAS, Her statewide commitments include service on the Western New York Youth Apprenticeship steering committee, serving on the advisory board of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, service as an Emeriti member of the Western New York Women's Foundation, member of Say Yes Buffalo's Operating Committee, service to The Richardson Center Corporation Board, and she Co-chairs the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council; and

WHEREAS, During her tenure as President, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner is proud of her ability to invest \$270 million in campus additions and renovations including opening its alumni center and its science and math complex, increasing the school's endowment by 100%, deepening the institution's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) work,

including recently opening a center for social justice and is working on a social justice walk commemorating the school's past actions related to DEI; additionally, under her purview, the institution became a university to recruit international and out-of-state students and to create opportunities for more collaborative research; and

WHEREAS, In her capacity as President, Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner served with loyalty, honor and distinction, and was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems in her official acts; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout has been her husband, Dr. Alvin L. Turner, who feels privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner upon the occasion of her retirement after over eight years of distinguished service to Buffalo State University; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Katherine S. Conway-Turner.