

2013-J2677

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Henry McCoy, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his 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, Henry McCoy, Jr., a resident of St. Albans, New York, for 42 years, died on June 17, 2013, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Born on Christmas Eve in 1926, in Wiggins, Mississippi, Henry McCoy, Jr. was the second child of Eugenia Smith and Henry McCoy, Sr.; soon after his birth, the family moved to Mobile, Alabama, and then to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he grew up; and

WHEREAS, Upon graduating from high school, the family moved to New York City, and Henry McCoy, Jr. enlisted in the United States Army; he was discharged in 1947; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr. distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr. went to work for the United States Post Office; in 1957, he was appointed to the New York City Police Department, where he served with distinction for 23 years before retiring as a Lieutenant in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr. served the department in various capacities including commanding officer and coordinator of youth division activities for the Borough of Manhattan, and citywide coordinator for the Special Court Diversion Project which steered youth away from anti-social behavior into constructive activity; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Henry McCoy, Jr. was appointed a City Marshal, and

served in this capacity for 11 years; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his years of police work, Henry McCoy, Jr. continued his education; he earned an Associate's degree in Police Science from Baruch College in 1964, a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College in 1972, and a Master's degree in Urban Studies from Queens College of the City of New York in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr.'s commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Never one to rest on his laurels, in 1992, Henry McCoy, Jr. decided to run for male district leader in the 33rd Assembly District in Queens, New York; in his first run for elective office, he won over two opponents by an overwhelming margin; prior to establishing the United for Progress Democratic Club in 1993, he was a board member and Vice President of the Guy R. Brewer United Democratic Club; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr. was a longtime civic leader in St. Albans, the Southeast Queens community and New York City; he was a member of many organizations including a former board Member of the United Black Men of Queens, a Life Member of the Guardians Association of the New York City Police Department, a Life Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., a former member of the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association, and a chief delegate of the Federation of Negro Civil Service Workers; and

WHEREAS, A passionate tennis player, Henry McCoy, Jr. combined his love of the sport with his mentorship of young people as President of Youth and Tennis, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides year round instruction and programs for junior tennis and youth development

in public parks and schools; in the past, he also traveled around the country playing in tournaments on the senior tennis circuit; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr. was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, including the Robert Couche Senior Center's Distinguished

Citizen Award, the Congressional Achievement Award, the Distinguished Service Award, the Community Leader Award, and the New York City Police Department's Achievement Award, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Henry McCoy, Jr. is survived by his sister, Leola Gaines McCoy, and nieces, Anna and Victoria Gaines; an aunt, Ellen Green; cousins, Delores Walker, Joseph Smith, Delores Brown-Hunder, Eugenia Smith, Anderson James Smith, Sr., Emma Ford, Pearlie Walker, William Smith, Catherine Coleman, Leon Jeffries, Wayne Jeffries, Portia Walton, Donald Norris, Inez Norris, Velma Norris, Theodora Norris, Brenda Smothers, Dena Norris, Robert Norris, Julius Kimbrough, Theodore Kimbrough, Constance Rozier, Sandra Coleman, Wayne Coleman, Lance Coleman, Debra Coleman, Van-olvin Odom, Benjamin Odom, and Sylvia Jenkins; and dear friends, Yvonne Bruce, John Humphrey, Joseph Richardson and Reginald Belgrave; as well as a host of other relatives, colleagues, friends and associates; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Henry McCoy, Jr. leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Henry McCoy, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community, and to offer sincere condolences to his family and friends; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Henry McCoy, Jr.