

## 2013-J3404

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the Eighth Pastoral Anniversary of  
The Reverend Dr. James A. Thornton

WHEREAS, The spiritual guidance and nurturing of the citizens of the  
State of New York is of great importance to the vitality and well-being  
of our communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-  
standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commem-  
orate the Eighth Pastoral Anniversary of The Reverend Dr. James A.  
Thornton; and

WHEREAS, On Sunday, April 28, 2006, after 45 years of stellar and  
transforming leadership of the Salem Missionary Baptist Church, the  
mantle was passed from The Reverend Dr. Thomas J. Boyd to his son, The  
Reverend Dr. James A. Thornton; this was the sixth time in the 103-year  
history of this great church, that a pastor was called to lead its  
people; and

WHEREAS, The Salem Missionary Baptist Church family today celebrates  
the Eighth Pastoral Anniversary of Reverend James Thornton, a compas-  
sionate leader; and

WHEREAS, From the very first project in 2006, which was the installa-  
tion of new energy efficient windows in the Church, to the response of  
congregants affected by the devastating and destructive Hurricane Sandy  
in 2012, Reverend James Thornton has shown caring and love throughout;  
and

WHEREAS, In the past eight years, the Salem Missionary Baptist Church  
family has awarded a significant amount in scholarships to its students  
that have been enrolled and accepted into accredited institutions of  
higher learning; and

WHEREAS, Reverend James Thornton's commitment to the work of Missions

here in the United States and in distant lands remains undaunted; during the years of his tenure, the Salem family has given much to the cause of missions and spreading the Gospel; and

WHEREAS, A devoted spiritual leader, Reverend James Thornton has traveled to the mission fields of Africa, the Caribbean and South America; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Eighth Pastoral Anniversary of The Reverend Dr. James A. Thornton; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Dr. James A. Thornton.