

## 2013-J3893

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending JoAnne Page upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals and organizations it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend JoAnne Page upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, JoAnne Page began her illustrious career in the field of criminal justice more than 30 years ago, and has served as President and CEO of The Fortune Society, an organization established to assist former prisoners with their reintegration into society, since 1989; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1967, The Fortune Society offers housing, employment, education, mental health services, and other programs to approximately 3,500 men and women each year, soon after they are released from prison; and

WHEREAS, The mission of The Fortune Society is to support successful reentry from prison, promote alternatives to incarceration and humanize the criminal justice system, thus strengthening the fabric of our communities; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of JoAnne Page, The Fortune Society's innovative and successful initiatives have become models for similar programs across the country; this includes the opening of the groundbreaking Fortune Academy, a nationally recognized residence of emergency housing for men and women who have been released from prison

into homelessness; and

WHEREAS, In addition, JoAnne Page's determination to provide housing for The Fortune Society's clients inspired the project, Castle Gardens, the organization's first permanent housing complex, located in West Harlem; the 11-story building, which opened in 2010, consists of 114 apartments, and provides services such as counseling, case management, and financial planning; and

WHEREAS, Born in 1954, JoAnne Page is truly committed to rehabilitation, redemption, rebuilding families, and transforming lives; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Yale Law School, JoAnne Page is a frequent speaker and presenter at conferences regarding such topics as alternatives to incarceration, HIV case management, and criminal justice issues; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, she has been a featured interview guest on such national television programs as, CNN, Court TV, NBC News, The News Hour with Jim Lehrer, The O'Reilly Factor and Geraldo Rivera; and

WHEREAS, The Fortune Society has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades from the National Institute of Justice, the American Society of Criminology, the United States Department of Justice, and other governmental and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals 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 JoAnne Page upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition in conjunction with Women's History Month 2014 in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to JoAnne Page.