2013-J4311

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Watchful Eye upon the occasion of celebrating its 5th Anniversary on April 8, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Watchful Eye upon the occasion of celebrating its 5th Anniversary on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, at Brooklyn Borough Hall, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, This momentous occasion will also be honored during HIV/AIDS Awareness Night of the UniverSoul Circus, on Thursday, April 10, 2014, Under the Big Tent at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, New York; and. WHEREAS, Watchful Eye is a community based organization that is uniquely positioned to mobilize local stakeholders and national leadership to ensure that HIV/AIDS remains a part of every community's public health agenda; the organization's red ribbon symbolizes compassion for those infected by the virus and its commitment to save lives through preventative testing endeavors; and

WHEREAS, The Testing, Outreach and Prevention (T.O.P.) initiative of Watchful Eye serves as a catalyst to provide testing, prevention and education services which reduce stigma and enhance risk reduction in the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, Realizing the true value of a community based organization is measured by its impact and ability to encourage change, Watchful Eye works closely with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to document the data of T.O.P. testing numbers and outcomes; and WHEREAS, The Watchful Eye has worked tirelessly to inform, coordinate and organize the volunteer efforts in local communities and across the nation to meet the challenge of fighting HIV and AIDS; and WHEREAS, Today, Watchful Eye has built a powerful community partnership comprised of Brooklyn's faith-based leaders, elected officials, social service leaders, stakeholders and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, to develop initiatives including New York City Faith and Action for HIV Prevention and Education, as well as Stepping Up in Faith for HIV & AIDS, a five borough, week-long series of HIV and AIDS awareness activities; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to Watchful Eye; and WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when an organization of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention, it should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Watchful Eye upon the occasion of celebrating its 5th Anniversary on April 8, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Divinah Bailey, Founder, Watchful Eye.