

2013-J4851

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Hornrette Washington upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Community Service Award by the National Association of University Women, Queens Branch on May 18, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor individuals who distinguish themselves in their profession and in service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in keeping with its long-standing tradition, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Hornrette Washington upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Community Service Award by the National Association of University Women, Queens Branch, at its 60th Anniversary and Scholarship Luncheon to be held on May 18, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The daughter of the late Reverend Richard and Reverend Inez Thomas, Hornrette Washington was born in Harlem, New York, and was educated in the New York City public school system; and

WHEREAS, She worked in the New York City Department of Social Services for 39 years and retired as an Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner of the Medical Assistance Program in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Hornrette Washington started playing the piano at age four and it was immediately apparent that she was gifted; and

WHEREAS, As a young adult, pursuing her love of music, Hornrette Washington established an interdenominational children's choir, The Starlets of Corona, which sang at churches throughout the five boroughs and in the southland doing community work at prisons, drug rehabilitation centers and senior facilities; R&B recording artist Meli'ssa Morgan is one of Hornrette's proteges who has emerged out of this very multitalented choir; and

WHEREAS, In October 2013, she became the Minister of Music Emeritus

after serving faithfully for 31 years with Dr. Marvin J. Bentley at the Antioch Baptist Church of Corona; she has also presided over five choirs, the liturgical dance ministry and a sign ministry for the deaf and hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, Hornrette Washington's music ministry, in addition to her work with the Elmhurst Clergy Association, embraces the ministry of 10 neighborhood churches; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, she serves as a musician, consultant and praise and worship leader at conferences for the American Baptist Metro-New York, American Baptist Women in Ministry, and American Baptist Women's Ministries, as well as an active participant in the Gospel Music Workshop of America and the Hampton Minister and Musician Guild, National Convention of Choir and Chorus; and

WHEREAS, Hornrette Washington has also recorded an inspirational CD entitled "Essence of Gospel"; and

WHEREAS, Hornrette Washington also serves as a guest musician at Women's Day Services throughout the New York City metropolitan area, as a praise and worship leader at church retreats, and provides entertainment for the residents at Elmhurst Care Nursing Rehabilitation Center; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding woman has received numerous awards, proclamations, and letters of appreciation from many officials in Queens for her work in the community; and

WHEREAS, A global traveler, Hornrette Washington has traveled throughout the United States for American Baptist and on her own to Jerusalem, Europe, Haiti, Costa Rica, the Caribbean and Canada; and

WHEREAS, Hornrette Washington knows and appreciates that she is fortunate to have her family, including her son, Richard Washington, her

daughter, Victoria Gordon, and her grandson, Taishon Black, all of whom are proud to be part of her life and rejoice in her many accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Hornrette Washington upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Community Service Award by the National Association of University Women, Queens Branch; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Hornrette Washington.