

## 2013-J4994

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Commissioner Darryl C. Towns upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Beacon Leadership Award by the Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley

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 who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Commissioner Darryl C. Towns upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Beacon Leadership Award by the Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the Center's 20th Annual Dessert Spectacular on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at the Franklin Plaza Ballroom in Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people with disabilities lead happy and fulfilling lives; rooted in a philosophy of self-determination, the Center offers many services, including advocacy, peer counseling, and facilitates access to housing and employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The Beacon Leadership Award is granted annually to those few individuals and businesses which have demonstrated their commitment to the rights of persons with disabilities; honorees have each in their own way helped make the community a more welcoming place, for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Darryl C. Towns served in the New York State Assembly for 18 years where he chaired the Banking Committee as well as the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislative Caucus; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Darryl C. Towns was appointed by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to lead New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) as Commissioner/CEO; and

WHEREAS, As the Commissioner of the State's integrated housing and community renewal agencies and programs, Darryl C. Towns is responsible for the application and execution of a massive five year effort to create and preserve more than 14,000 housing units; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man is an integral part of New York State's plans to expand affordable housing opportunities and build strong communities; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his entire career of public service, a period of constructive involvement, Commissioner Darryl C. Towns has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which this remarkable man has displayed throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Commissioner Darryl C. Towns upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Beacon Leadership Award by the Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Commissioner Darryl C. Towns.