

2013-J5130

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Black Institute for its outstanding three years of shaping intellectual discourse from a unique black perspective, and paying tribute to Founder and President Bertha Lewis

WHEREAS, Organizations and individuals which serve the interests of the people of this Empire State merit the commendation of this Legislative Body; and

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 commend The Black Institute for its outstanding three years of shaping intellectual discourse from a unique black perspective, and paying tribute to Founder and President Bertha Lewis; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the organization's 2014 Annual Celebration and Award Reception on Thursday, May 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The Black Institute is a non-profit organization committed to addressing the systematic issues faced by people of color, both within the United States and throughout the African Diaspora; and

WHEREAS, Since 2010, The Black Institute has been focused on four main areas, each of which has a powerful impact on Black communities: immigration reform, education, environmental justice, and economic fairness; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong community organizer and advocate for equality, Bertha Lewis has accumulated tremendous knowledge of the struggles, concerns and hopes of America's minority population; she has used her experience to give voice to the black community and fight injustice; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed woman has been the recipient of numerous accolades in recognition of her outstanding work; she was awarded the Citizen Activist Award from the Gleitsman Foundation in 2004, and the New York State Black and Puerto Rican legislators, Inc. Leon Bogues Award in 2005; most recently, she received the MLK Community Service Award by the Caribbean Images TV; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and associations 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 The Black Institute for its outstanding three years of shaping intellectual discourse from a unique black perspective, and paying tribute to Founder and President Bertha Lewis; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Black Institute.