

2013-J5591

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Hal A. Lawson upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement on April 25, 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 who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. Hal A. Lawson, Professor, School of Social Welfare and School of Education, University at Albany, upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement, which was celebrated at an Award Ceremony at the University at Albany, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed award honors University at Albany-community partnerships which are enhancing public well-being in the Capital Region and beyond; their community engagement is a collaboration between higher education institutions and external partners in the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources to address areas of public need; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious academic career, Dr. Hal A. Lawson has focused on academically-based community scholarship, generating community-engaged research to address urgent social needs, advance theory, and improve outcomes for vulnerable people; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hal A. Lawson's work is richly interdisciplinary, covering a broad range of topics to improve public policy, organizational redesign, new workforce configurations, and social interventions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hal A. Lawson's extensive scholarship includes a federal-

ly-funded, state-wide research and development project to remodel child welfare systems; a University at Albany School of Public Health study funded by the National Institutes of Health to use community-based participatory action research to reduce childhood obesity in Troy, New York; a research and development initiative sponsored by the New York State Education Department focused on improving persistently under-performing schools and districts, and innovative designs for multi-service and community schools, in the cities of Albany and Schenectady; and WHEREAS, Partners on various efforts have included: Capital Area School Development Association; Albany Institute for Research in Education; Commission on Economic Opportunity, Troy, New York; New York State Education Department; New York State Office of Child and Family Services; New York State Social Work Education Consortium; and many regional school districts, including Cohoes and Cobleskill-Richmondville; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations 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 Dr. Hal A. Lawson upon the occasion of being selected to receive the 2014 University at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement on April 25, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Hal A. Lawson.