

## 2015-J991

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Sister Yliana Hernandez, PBVM upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Caritas Award by Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary careers, accomplishments, and purposeful lives of service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Sister Yliana Hernandez, PBVM upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Caritas Award by Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County at its 9th Annual Celebration of Charity to be held on Thursday, March 26, 2015, at Anthony's Pier 9, New Windsor, New York; and

WHEREAS, A woman of singular distinction, Sister Yliana Hernandez serves as an extraordinary example of one who demonstrates a deep respect for the dignity of every individual by serving the basic needs of the most vulnerable in our midst and by significantly contributing to the building of a compassionate and just society; and

WHEREAS, Yliana Hernandez was born in Cuba and raised on a large sugar cane plantation where her father worked; in 1961, she left Cuba in order to avoid the repression of Fidel Castro's regime; and

WHEREAS, Yliana Hernandez was employed in a button factory in New York City, and as a Bookkeeper at the BonTon Shirt Company; after her family's safe arrival to the United States in 1966, she joined the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (PBVM); and

WHEREAS, A firm believer in the power of education, Sister Yliana Hernandez attended night school to obtain her high school diploma; she

continued with her education earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the State University of New York at New Paltz, and a Master of Arts degree from Herbert H. Lehman College, as well as both a Master of Science and Professional Diploma from Fordham University, and a Professional Diploma in Administration from Manhattan College; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Sister Yliana Hernandez became the inaugural Principal of the Nora Cronin Presentation Academy, a New York State chartered, private middle school for underprivileged girls in the City of Newburgh, fostering education as a means to raise expectations for these young girls; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Sister Yliana Hernandez over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned our recognition and applause; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Sister Yliana Hernandez, PBVM upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Caritas Award by Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sister Yliana Hernandez, PBVM.