

## 2015-J1370

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Natalie Morales upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Urban Assembly School for Law and Justice on May 11, 2015

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those patriotic and civic-minded community members who dedicate their lives and careers to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Natalie Morales upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Urban Assembly School for Law and Justice, to be celebrated at its Annual Spring Benefit on Monday, May 11, 2015, at the New York Public Library in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Born in Taiwan, Natalie Morales, who speaks Spanish and Portuguese, spent much of her childhood life overseas in Panama, Brazil and Spain; she holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Latin American Studies from Rutgers University where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and graduated summa cum laude; and

WHEREAS, Natalie Morales is the news anchor of NBC News "Today" and the co-host of the "Third Hour," a position she has held since March of 2006; prior to her role as news anchor, she served as "Today" national correspondent from February 2006 to June 2011; and

WHEREAS, In addition, this esteemed woman has reported for all NBC News platforms including "NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams," "Date-line NBC," and MSNBC; during her tenure with NBC News, she has reported on and contributed to several major breaking news stories; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her illustrious career, Natalie Morales has been the proud recipient of countless awards and accolades; for three consecutive years she was awarded with a Daytime Emmy Award as part of Today's

recognition as Best Morning News Program; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, in October of 2010, Natalie Morales live-translated and reported on the Chilean miner rescue-coverage which was seen worldwide, subsequently earning her a National Headliner Award; she was a member of the "Rock Center with Brian Williams" team who won a Robert F. Kennedy Award for their lobster divers story in June of 2013; and

WHEREAS, Natalie Morales was also honored with the 2013 Gracie Award for Outstanding Series for her Dateline series, "My Kid Would Never"; additionally, HISPANIC MAGAZINE named her one of the "Top Hispanics to Watch" in 2005 and one of the "Top Trendsetters" of 2003; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to society, Natalie Morales has given tirelessly of her time and energy to those in need; as a part of the "Today" Shine a Light Campaign in 2014, she ran in and raised substantial funds for victims of the Boston Marathon; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout have been her husband, Joseph, and their two sons, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; 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 the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Natalie Morales upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Urban Assembly School for Law and Justice on May 11, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Natalie Morales.