

2015-J1509

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Mary Holmes Reid upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Bay Shore-Brightwaters Distinguished Citizen Award

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Mary Holmes Reid upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Bay Shore-Brightwaters Distinguished Citizen Award, to be celebrated at the 15th Annual Award Dinner hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Bay Shore and the Bay Shore BID, to be held on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at Captain Bill's Restaurant, Bay Shore, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid was the oldest of four children born to the late George and Mamie Holmes, in North Carolina; in 1947, she and her family re-located to Bay Shore, New York; and

WHEREAS, Upon their arrival, the Holmes family became members of the First Baptist Church of Bay Shore, and young Mary was enrolled in the Fifth Avenue Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, A faithful parishioner of her church, Mary Holmes Reid played the piano on several occasions, including Sunday school, church services, funerals, and weddings; she also sang with the youth choirs, Beaman Family Choir, and today, she still sings with the 8 AM Choir; and

WHEREAS, A much loved student at the Bay Shore schools, Mary Holmes Reid's abilities and varied activities earned her the coveted Leader's Club Gold Key; upon graduating from high school in 1954, she went on to study at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo; and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid then accepted a job at Pilgrim Psychiatric Center; her valuable skills enabled her to quickly rise through the ranks, enjoying many positions, especially working with the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP); and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid was the first female to be elected to the esteemed position of Regional Coordinator of the Public Employees Federation (PEF) of Long Island; during this time, she furthered her education by attending Suffolk Community College, SUNY Stony Brook, and the George Meany School of Labor Relations; and

WHEREAS, For more than four decades, Mary Holmes Reid has been the owner/operator of her own income tax consultation and preparation business; she also uses her expertise to prepare taxes for retirees at the local library; and

WHEREAS, Active in her community, Mary Holmes Reid is known for her dedicated efforts to improving life for people from different races, religions, and backgrounds, making Bay Shore a better place in which to live and work together; and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid's volunteer activities are extensive, ranging from civil rights, education, social services, religious, labor relations, politics, and family relations; presently, she works with the Bay Shore Summit, and its recently formed School Task Force; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Mary Holmes Reid holds the position of President of both the Brentwood Public Library Board of Trustees and the Long Island Retiree Chapter of PEF; she is also Chairperson of the First

Baptist Church Property Development Committee, and the Political Education Committee; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Mary Holmes Reid was a vital member of the Bay Shore Tri-centennial Committee, helping to organize the first Houses of Worship Tour in Bay Shore, and to promote the "Under the Big Tent" community event; and

WHEREAS, Despite her busy schedule, Mary Holmes Reid finds time to coordinate neighborhood watch activities, and babysit her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mary Holmes Reid has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, but is most proud of her induction into the Bay Shore High School Hall of Fame in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by her husband, Steven Alfred Reid, with her throughout have been her 100 year old mother, Mamie Holmes, and her three children, Karl, Stefanie, Stacey, as well as their families, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achievements; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Mary Holmes Reid has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Mary Holmes Reid has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be 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 Mary Holmes Reid upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Bay Shore-Brightwaters Distinguished Citizen Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mary Holmes Reid.