

2015-J1900

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of legendary performer, Johnny Kemp, a Bahamian Rhythm and Blues singer and gifted songwriter

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay just tribute to those musical talents whose commitment and creative abilities contributed to the entertainment and cultural enrichment of their community and the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to mourn the death of legendary performer, Johnny Kemp, a Bahamian Rhythm and Blues singer and gifted songwriter, who died on Thursday, April 16, 2015, at the age of 55; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Kemp was born in the Bahamas on August 2, 1959, and at the young age of 13, he began singing in nightclubs; 20 years later, he moved to Harlem, New York, where he worked as a session vocalist and songwriter before landing a solo contract with Columbia Records; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Kemp's self-titled debut album came out in 1986, and he scored a minor hit with "Just Another Lover"; however, true success came the following year, with the release of his SECRETS OF FLYING album, which contained a pair of Top 40 hits on the United States Billboard Rhythm and Blues Chart, "Dancin' with Myself" and "Just Got Paid", the latter hitting No. 1; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Kemp is survived by his loving wife, Deirdre Fisher-Kemp, and his two devoted sons; and

WHEREAS, The history, the heritage, and the lives of the people of all countries and all cultures are portrayed in their music and dance; the art and act of sharing them enriches us altogether; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to remember the life and accomplishments of legendary musician, Johnny Kemp, whose illustrious career will forever live in the hearts of many and continue

to inspire generations to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of legendary performer, Johnny Kemp, a Bahamian Rhythm and Blues singer and gifted songwriter; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Johnny Kemp.