

## 2015-J1977

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Sister Kathleen Nolan, RSM upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Sisters of Mercy on May 19, 2015

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who would commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals and organizations which distinguish themselves through their unremitting commitment and service to humanity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Sister Kathleen Nolan, RSM upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Sisters of Mercy to be celebrated at its 16th Annual Evening of Mercy Gala on May 19, 2015, at The Yale Club of New York City; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters of Mercy work passionately to eliminate poverty, the widespread denial of human rights, the degradation of earth, the increase in violence and racism, the continued oppression of women, the abuse of children, the mistreatment of immigrants and the lack of solidarity among people and nations; and

WHEREAS, Kathleen Nolan earned her bachelor's degree from St. John's University, Jamaica, New York, and then went on to receive her Master's degree in Social Work from Fordham University, New York City; and

WHEREAS, For more than five decades, Sister Kathleen Nolan has been a faithful member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas; she began her ministry in education, and after four years moved into foster care and

adoption social work and administration, where she served for 13 years;  
and

WHEREAS, After a brief time working in parish outreach, Sister Kathleen Nolan co-founded Mercy Haven, Inc.; from its humble beginning as a provider of housing for persons living with mental illness, this vital organization has expanded to include housing for the elderly, limited income families, as well as disabled and homeless individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, For 20 years, Sister Kathleen Nolan held the position of Associate Executive Director of Mercy Haven, Inc.; in this capacity, she was in charge of business operations, managing its growing number of homes, which now stands at 35 owned properties and 38 rental properties encompassing 104 units of housing; and

WHEREAS, After leaving this position, Sister Kathleen Nolan went on a year's sabbatical; upon returning, she took on the role of Coordinator of Breakthrough, a homeless outreach and education program which helps to develop the life-skills of participants who are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, 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 commend Sister Kathleen Nolan, RSM upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Sisters of Mercy on May 19, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sister Kathleen Nolan, RSM.