

2015-J4645

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Vicki Been upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Housing and Family Services of Greater New York, Inc. on June 16, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Vicki Been upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Housing and Family Services of Greater New York, Inc. to be celebrated at its 26th Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, June 16, 2016, at Rex Manor, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, For more than four decades, Housing and Family Services of Greater New York, Inc., formerly known as Brooklyn Housing & Family Services, has been assisting and educating tenants, building owners, and community leaders; through its Tenant Committees, the organization has successfully initiated building improvements and combated the deterioration of housing stock in its Borough; and

WHEREAS, Since 1971, Housing and Family Services of Greater New York, Inc. has strived to stabilize neighborhoods and preserve the quality of housing in its community; during the last few years, it has expanded the scope of its program dramatically, attempting to bond a newer, stronger cooperation between tenants and building owners; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of New York University School of Law, Vicki Been served as a Clerk for Judge Edward Weinfeld of the Southern District of New York and Justice Harry Blackmun of the Supreme Court of the United

States; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Been then held the title of Director of New York University's (NYU) Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, a nationally renowned academic research center devoted to the public policy aspects of land use, real estate, and housing development; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Vicki Been holds the esteemed position of Commissioner of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, the nation's largest municipal housing agency; in this capacity, she is responsible for implementing the New York City Housing Plan to create or preserve 200,000 affordable homes over a 10-year period; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Vicki Been is a tenured member of the faculty at NYU School of Law and an affiliated professor at the NYU Wagner School of Public Service; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Vicki Been has served on several Boards of Directors including the Center for New York City Neighborhoods, the Municipal Art Society, the Pratt Center for Community Economic Development, and the Next American City; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Vicki Been has displayed throughout her life; 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 Vicki Been upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Housing and Family Services of Greater New York, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Vicki Been.