

## 2015-J4747

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Dr. Albert Vann upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Male Development and Empowerment Center at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, on April 18, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those individuals who are committed to expanding scholastic opportunities and enhancing the quality of education in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Dr. Albert Vann upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Male Development and Empowerment Center at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, to be celebrated at its Inaugural Founder's Breakfast, on Monday, April 18, 2016, in conjunction with its Annual Men of Medgar Week; and

WHEREAS, Along with its Black Male Initiative, the Male Development and Empowerment Center is proud to host the Men of Medgar Week, a week-long celebratory exploration of the minority male experience and presence on the Medgar Evers College campus; this special occasion will consist of a variety of workshops, symposiums, lectures, social and special events moderated and hosted by diverse men of color from all spectrums of life dedicated to raising awareness and the social conscience of the College's male population; and

WHEREAS, The end goal of this enlightening event is to encourage academic excellence, engage and spark recruitment, while highlighting and honoring male achievement, as well as promoting excellence on the college campus; and

WHEREAS, The festivities will begin with a motivational Founder's

Breakfast followed by the Annual Medgar Men in Suits campus march and conclude with the President's Breakfast and the ceremonial Pi Eta Kappa Honors Induction; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, Dr. Albert Vann, affectionately known as Al, has a long and distinguished career as a public servant, educator and community activist; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 18, Albert Vann joined the United States Marine Corps where he proudly served his country as a Sergeant; after his discharge, he earned his bachelor's degree from The University of Toledo in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Albert Vann furthered his education by obtaining his Master's degree in Education from Yeshiva University in New York City, and a Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from Long Island University; and

WHEREAS, After college, Dr. Albert Vann began a long career as an educator at P.S. 256, JHS 35 and JHS 271, where he founded the African American Teachers Association, before serving as an instructor at Vassar College's Urban Center for Black Studies; as a community board member, he played an instrumental role in the creation of Boys & Girls Memorial High School and Medgar Evers College of The City University of New York; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Dr. Albert Vann was elected to the New York City Council, where he established the Committee on Community Development, and served as its Chairman for 12 years; he also created the 36th Council District Katrina Relief Effort, the Black Brooklyn Empowerment Convention, and was an advocate for the Black and Latino communities through the Council's HIV/AIDS Faith-Based Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Educators like Dr. Albert Vann provide a tremendous service to the future of our State and Nation, inspiring generations of young people in their educational journeys and ensuring their success in their future years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Albert Vann has clearly had an enduring impact on the youth of Brooklyn, as well as on the community-at-large, and accordingly merits recognition and applause for his impressive dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals who work to support our proud tradition of public education by providing their skills and talents to our schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. Albert Vann upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Male Development and Empowerment Center at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, on April 18, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Albert Vann.