

## 2015-J6239

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church upon the occasion of hosting a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in recognition of its newly renovated Main Sanctuary on July 2, 2016

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church upon the occasion of hosting a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in recognition of its newly renovated Main Sanctuary on Saturday, July 2, 2016, in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church was organized by the late Reverend Desha Moten on November 6, 1966, on Vanderbilt Avenue in Brooklyn, New York; through his work and witness in the community the membership significantly grew and a larger edifice became a necessity; and

WHEREAS, On October 6, 1968, the congregation of the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church moved into a larger place of worship; during this time, the church continued to strive for higher grounds to fulfill the spirit and vision of its beloved late Pastor including the formation of several church boards and a thriving Sunday School Department; and

WHEREAS, On April 15, 1982, the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church moved into its new and current edifice located at 1084 Lafayette Avenue in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church has been led by Reverend Dr. Emma J. Knox since October of 1996; she has served as a

faithful member of the church for 28 years prior to becoming its pastor;  
and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Reverend Dr. Emma J. Knox, the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church has seen the further blossoming of its Christian education including: The Sunday School Ministry; The Rugged Cross Bible Institute, a fully accredited Bible College; and The Rugged Cross Christian Academy which is a fully accredited state certified learning center for children two to six years of age; and

WHEREAS, The Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church was recognized by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as a Historical Landmark in June of 2007; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to the Brooklyn Community, the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church opened a 50 unit low income apartment complex known as The Rugged Cross Apartments in October of 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church upon the occasion of hosting a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in recognition of its newly renovated Main Sanctuary on July 2, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Reverend Dr. Emma J. Knox, the Historic Rugged Cross Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York.