

## 2015-J6479

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Estella Williamson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the LGBT POC Health and Human Service Award by In Our Own Voices, Inc. on July 17, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 organizations and 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 long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Estella Williamson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the LGBT POC Health and Human Service Award by In Our Own Voices, Inc., to be celebrated at its Annual Jazz in July Event on Sunday, July 17, 2016, at the State Room, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, In Our Own Voices is an autonomous organization dedicated to addressing the many needs and ensuring the physical, mental, spiritual, political, cultural, and economic survival and growth of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People of Color (LGBT POC) community in the Capital Region of Upstate New York; and

WHEREAS, The LGBT POC Health and Human Service Award is given to an individual or organization that has visible evidence and a direct impact on elimination of oppression and marginalization in LGBT POC communities; Estella Williamson is one such individual; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Dean and Director of the Field Education Program at the University at Albany School of Social Welfare, Estella Williamson assists students in learning to develop, apply and integrate learned theoretical skills in social work practice settings; and

WHEREAS, Estella Williamson's past experiences in social work leader-

ship involved managing programs in child welfare, outpatient mental health and addictions, prenatal services and HIV clinical and preventive care; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, her management of clinical programming included the development and implementation of services, program monitoring and evaluation, and the procurement and management of State and Federal grants; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her illustrious career, Estella Williamson has served as a field instructor, adjunct instructor and speaker on social work practice and theory; she is also a therapist in private practice; and

WHEREAS, Our society is greatly benefited by the purposeful efforts of individuals who unite for the cause of improving the quality of life for others, and who proactively work toward the goal of dignity for all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Estella Williamson upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the LGBT POC Health and Human Service Award by In Our Own Voices, Inc., and to wish this exemplary woman continued success in her vital work on behalf of the community she serves; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Estella Williamson.