

2013-J585

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring William M. Clay upon the occasion of his retirement after 40 distinguished years of public service

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who demonstrate great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor William M. Clay upon the occasion of his retirement after 40 distinguished years of public service; and

WHEREAS, William Clay served as Assistant Commissioner of the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) and Community Relations Office at the New York State Office of General Services (OGS); he was honored to rejoin the agency again in 2007 after originally retiring with 35 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership, William Clay accomplished the following: initiated the first OGS Managers M/WBE Advisory Committee quarterly meetings; opened the first M/WBE Satellite Office on the Empire State Plaza Concourse in Albany; developed interactive M/WBE performance measures that provide for the improvement of OGS compliance practices and vendor accountability; increased office staff resources; improved dialogue and renewed partnership with Empire State Development; developed an interactive M/WBE website; worked with Counsel's Office to update OGS contract language; initiated new M/WBE outreach procedures (regional Helping Hand Workshops and Consultant & Construction Symposiums) that helped OGS improve its M/WBE goals; and increased agency visibility and integrity by conducting community awareness meetings; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clay first joined OGS in 1964 as a Capital Police Officer and rose through the ranks to become its first African-American Captain;

in 1981, Governor Hugh Carey issued Executive Order 117, which prescribed arrangements for establishing and coordinating a program for Minority Business Enterprises (MBE); shortly after, John C. Egan, Commissioner of OGS appointed William Clay as Director of the MBE program; and

WHEREAS, In this position, William Clay had the responsibility of instituting and organizing the first state-wide MBE program; two years later, Governor Mario Cuomo issued Executive Order 21, which superseded Executive Order 117, and included Women and established an Executive Committee on Minority and Women Owned Business Development (W/MBE); and

WHEREAS, Upon his retirement, Mr. Clay served 15 years as President of his own private investigation and security firm, C & P Investigations, which he formed in 1993; in 2007, he was elected to a second term in the Albany County Legislature to represent residents of the 13th Legislative District; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clay has won numerous awards throughout the years for his work to promote minority and women-owned business development; he serves on the following committees: the City of Albany Planning Board; Albany County Human Services Advisory Board; the Albany Police Foundation Board; the Community Loan Fund Development Committee; and is Chairman of the Budget Committee of the Albany County Industrial Development Agency (ACIDA); and

WHEREAS, William M. Clay has been a faithful and dedicated member of the Metropolitan New Testament Missionary Baptist Church of Albany for over five decades; he is also affiliated with the New York State Security Guard Advisory Council, the Associated Licensed Detectives of New York State, Inc., NAACP Albany Branch, and is Vice President of 100 Black Men, Inc. of the Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clay attended Hudson Valley Community College, Cornell University, State University of New York at Albany, Empire State College, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Jean, and their children Michael and Scott, along with several grandchildren and one great grandchild, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated public servants who unselfishly devote their lives to the preservation

of order and the protection of others are worthy and due full praise for their commitment and noble endeavors; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor William M. Clay upon the occasion of his retirement after 40 distinguished years of public service; and be it further
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to William M. Clay.