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STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, NEW YORK, JANUARY 7, 2016 A.D.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION IN REMEMBRANCE OF EVA MALINDA NOLES

I HEREBY CERTIFY *that at a regular meeting of the Legislature of Erie County, held in Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 7th day of January, 2016 A.D. a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, Eva Malinda Bateman was born in Cleveland in 1919 and came to Buffalo with her family in 1928. She graduated Hutchinson Central High School and was accepted to Buffalo City Hospital (later E.J.Meyer Memorial Hospital) School of Nursing where previously Black Women had not been admitted. And although she endured discrimination, and housing was segregated, she graduated, in 1940, at the top of her class. A gifted nursing student, who was denied admittance, with her date, to the Senior Dinner; and

WHEREAS, Eva went on to marry Douglas Noles, a professional photographer who died in 2001, having one son and three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, who miss her and attest to her personal character, intelligence and love for family and friends, her profession and her Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, after working for E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital and Columbus Hospital Eva was hired as a Staff Nurse at the world renowned Roswell Park Cancer Institute in 1945. Eva climbed the ranks overcoming discrimination where she encountered such and getting her bachelor's degree in nursing in 1962. Followed by a Master's in Education from the University at Buffalo in 1967 and advanced to become the first Black Nursing Chief in a New York State facility in 1971, retiring in 1974. Roswell Park Cancer Institute has established a scholarship in her name to assist annually deserving students and will name a nursing training room on the medical campus in her honor; and

WHEREAS, Eva Noles was never concerned only with herself, but with the entire Buffalo community, founding the New York State Nurses Week in 1970, which is celebrated every year from May 24th to May 30th, and was a board member of Buffalo General Hospital, the Health Organization of WNY, the Greater Buffalo Chapter of the Red Cross, served as Board Chair of the Community Mental Health Center of Buffalo, was a member of Zonta Club and NYS Board of Nursing, and the American Nursing Association among many other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, even after retirement Eva Noles lent her expertise to a federal program training Nurse Practitioners and served as a Home Care Supervisor for a local provider where she did staff development for the firm Medical Personal Pool, and became a prolific author of several books and papers seeking to preserve real and truthful histories about the local African American experience, penning 'Buffalo's Blacks: Talking Proud' and 'Black History: A Different Approach', 'The Church Builder: The Life of Bishop Charles H. McCoy, Church of God in Christ', 'Six decades of Nursing at Roswell Park 1914-1974'. Eva received many honors including the Uncrowned Queens Institute Culture Keepers award for outstanding contributions in 2002 which led the University of Buffalo to seek and Archive her collected papers permanently in the University at Buffalo Archives in 2005.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT,

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to honor the life of Eva Malinda Noles, Aspiring Student, Mom and Grandmother, Nurse, Educator, Trailblazer for African Americans and all American women acknowledging health care and all of Erie County is grateful for her extraordinary accomplishments and dedication to her community.

Hon. Betty Jean Grant
Erie County Legislator, 2nd District

Hon. Thomas A. Loughran
Erie County Legislator, 5th District