

**STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY**

**BUFFALO, NEW YORK, DECEMBER 29, 2015 A.D.**

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
EVA MALINDA NOLES**

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, on December 2, 2015, removed from our midst Eva M. Noles, in whose death we have lost a sincere and loyal friend, as well as a valued and respected citizen, and whose family has lost a kind and devoted member; and

**WHEREAS**, Eva Malinda Noles was born Eva Bateman in Cleveland, Ohio on April 5, 1919, her family settled in Buffalo, New York in 1928 and she graduated from Hutchinson Central High School in 1932; and

**WHEREAS**, Eva M. Noles was a registered nurse, a nursing educator, and a former Director of Nursing at Buffalo, New York's world-renowned Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Eva actually retired twice only to come back to train many people on how to provide various levels of healthcare. She was with Roswell Park Cancer Institute for over 30 years, serving in many capacities; and

**WHEREAS**, Eva was the first African-American nurse to train in Buffalo at the E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital School of Nursing (now Erie County Medical Center), Eva was not fully accepted in the school and encountered many subtle forms of racial prejudice, even right up to her graduation in 1940; and

**WHEREAS**, prejudice didn't end with her diploma from the school of nursing, unfortunately it followed her into her first years of working at her profession. After establishing herself in the field, she went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1962 and a Master of Arts degree in Education in 1967 from the University at Buffalo; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Noles founded New York State Nurses Week in 1970, which is celebrated annually in May. She also was a board member for Buffalo General Hospital, Community Mental Health, the Health Organization of Western New York and the Greater Buffalo Chapter of the American Red Cross, Eva Noles dedicated her life to nursing, but also to community service and outreach. She served on many local and national committees, including the NYS Board of Nursing and the American Nurses Association; and

**WHEREAS**, after her retirement, Eva spent much of her time helping others. Struggling against impressive odds and coming out on top has been a pattern for her, but she insisted it was more than a matter of luck; and

**WHEREAS**, Eva Noles received many awards for her dedicated community service, including the Uncrowned Queens Institute's Culture Keepers award for outstanding contributions to African-American culture in Western New York, which she received in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, Eva Noles was the author of several publications, including Buffalo's Blacks: Talking Proud and Black History: A Different Approach. Eva credits the lack of real and truthful history collection and story-telling on the local African-American experience as her reasons of becoming an author several years ago.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby mourn the passing of Eva Malinda Noles and pause in its deliberations to honor and celebrate the Life of Mrs. Noles, and offer our thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathy to Mrs. Noles's family, friends, and colleagues.

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**Hon. Barbara Miller-Williams**  
*Erie County Legislator, 1<sup>st</sup> District*