A PROCLAMATION SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR MILLER-WILLIAMS

RE: WELCOMING THE EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE CHURCH USHERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE TO ERIE COUNTY

***WHEREAS**, the Ministry of Church Ushering is a sacred and powerful responsibility, Church Ushers help to put Church guests in the right frame of mind for worship and must possess a spirit of meekness and humility to employ all aspects of the techniques used in Church Ushering; and*

***WHEREAS**, the vision for an Ushers Movement was given to Elijah Hamilton to broaden the field of Church Ushering, his humble pioneering efforts helped to shape the development of the National United Church Ushers Association of America, Inc.; and*

***WHEREAS**, the first convention of the National United Church Ushers Association of America, Inc. was held over 97 years ago on July 24-26, 1919, the mission of the organization has always been to promote a Silent Uniform System of Church Ushering and encourage the growth of innovative training programs; and*

***WHEREAS**, during the various annual national and regional conferences, a Memorial Service is held to honor the memory of deceased Ushers, Nurses, Ministers and Pastors, the Memorial Service will celebrate its 96th year of being a part of the organization history; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Church Ushers Association of Buffalo & Vicinity, Inc. had its humble beginnings in 1939 as the Ushers Union, a four member Church Usher Board organized by Bro. M. L. Evans, the organization was known all over the region and nationally and united with the State and National Associations in 1942; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Church Ushers Association of Buffalo & Vicinity, Inc. hosted the first State Convention of the Church Ushers Association of New York at Calvary Baptist Church, 539 William Street in June of 1957, the State Chapter went on to host the National Chapter Convention later on in 1957 and again in 1976; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Church Ushers Association of Buffalo & Vicinity, Inc. will host the Church Ushers Association of the State of New York, Inc. and the Eastern Region Ushers Association for the 96th Memorial Service Weekend November 12-13, 2016; the organization is proud to have been selected as the host location for the annual Eastern Region Mid-Year Evaluation Meeting, a nine state chapter meeting that is a working committee to prepare for the 60th Eastern Regional Conference in April 2017.*

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE,

***RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to welcome the Eastern Regional Conference of the Church Ushers Association of New York State, Inc. to Erie County, and be it further*

***RESOLVED**, that this Honorable Body commends the Church Ushers Association of Buffalo and Vicinity, Inc. for its dedication to ministry of Church Ushering and leadership throughout Erie County.*