

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., MAY 23, 2019 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 23rd day of May, 2019 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and

WHEREAS, McKinley Vocational High School, originally named Black Rock Vocational School, opened its doors in 1910 on Amherst and East Street in the city of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, in September of 1923, McKinley Vocational High School relocated to 1500 Elmwood Avenue, which formerly housed the Buffalo Orphan's Asylum; and

WHEREAS, McKinley Vocational High School is named after the former United States President William McKinley, who was assassinated at the Pan-American Exposition, which was held at what is now known as Delaware Park, on September 6, 1901; and

WHEREAS, McKinley Vocational High School grew from a two-year course in woodworking school to a four-year industrial high school in 1933, and where during World War II from 1939 to 1945, McKinley took part in the National Defense Training Program, which produced a Food Production War Training Program, and where McKinley was open around-the-clock to implement programs to aid soldiers and civilians; and

WHEREAS, after the war, McKinley Vocational High School continued to expand by creating more opportunities for apprenticeships in a variety of fields and where today, McKinley High School continues to offer high quality academics and vocational training programs; and

WHEREAS, McKinley Vocational High School has not had a picture or mural honoring former US President William McKinley in all of the years since its formation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. William Cobb, a teacher assistant at McKinley Vocational High School, who is also an Army Veteran, former Florida sheriff, preacher in Buffalo and artist, was inspired to draw a portrait of US President William McKinley and to donate it to the school; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, May 24, 2019, the McKinley Vocational High School JROTC will be conducting a Memorial Day assembly, followed by the picture dedication ceremony.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations on May 23, 2019, to recognize and acknowledge the work of artist Mr. William Cobb and commend his philanthropic gift to McKinley Vocational High School to properly honor former United States President William McKinley at the school, and celebrate the school's contributions to the community.