

Citation

Whereas, the Empire State is one of the largest states in the nation, a major hub in the global economy, and home to a large and complex system of government that calls for the best and brightest minds to responsibly serve our people; we value and appreciate those dedicated individuals who epitomize the ideals of public service through their lifelong careers and tireless commitment to building a safer, stronger, and more just New York State and, therefore, all New Yorkers proudly join to pay tribute to the Honorable H. Carl McCall on concluding an extraordinary career that spans more than a half century of devoted service to our state, its communities, and its people; and

Whereas, a native of Boston, H. Carl McCall graduated from Dartmouth College with a Bachelor's degree in government, attended the University of Edinburgh, and received his Master of Divinity Degree from Andover Newton Theological School in Massachusetts; after a brief period teaching and working in a bank, he served in the United States Army, and ultimately came to New York in the late 1960s; inspired by a sense of civic-mindedness and social consciousness, H. Carl McCall became involved in public service and was named head of the Commission Against Poverty by New York Mayor John Lindsay, and thereupon embarked on his public career in which he has exemplified a high degree of concern and responsibility for his fellow human beings and has remained active in various religious, civic, and community organizations; and

Whereas, H. Carl McCall leaves a distinguished legacy of accomplishment through his work at the federal, state, and local levels of government as Comptroller of the State of New York, an Ambassador to the United Nations, New York State Senator, Commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Commissioner of the New York State Division of Human Rights, President of the New York City Board of Education, and other roles on various commissions and boards, in addition to his honorable fulfillment of duty to the United States Army; and

Whereas, an outstanding component of this state's higher education, the State University of New York (SUNY) is key to our academic foundation, renowned for high standards of excellence thanks to its leaders who provide sound direction and guidance for its continued growth and success, and H. Carl McCall has diligently and faithfully served as a State University Trustee for twelve years and as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University from 2011-2019 – the first African-American to be appointed as Chairman in the history of the University; and

Whereas, under Chairman McCall's leadership, SUNY has instituted profound and lasting policies, including creation of the first Office of Diversity and Inclusion for the SUNY System and implementation of a system-wide diversity policy, expansion of Educational Opportunity Programs, implementation of the strongest measures in the nation to prevent sexual assault on college campuses, the end of criminal conviction disclosure in SUNY admissions, and implementation of a system-wide initiative to increase the number of underrepresented faculty; Chairman McCall has also played an instrumental role in advancing several of the largest construction projects ever undertaken by State University of New York campuses through the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program, transforming the student experience on SUNY campuses; and

Whereas, H. Carl McCall has been an outstanding leader in public service to New York State and its people, displaying commitment, passion, and a vision for the future, and as he retires from the SUNY Board of Trustees and from public service on June 30, 2019, all New Yorkers join in congratulating the Chairman and extending an expression of gratitude for his long and distinguished career of many accomplishments and in which his hard work, dedication, and civic-minded spirit have produced a noteworthy and lasting record of success;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby confer this Special Citation upon

THE HONORABLE H. CARL MCCALL

for his extraordinary work on behalf of the people of the State of New York and with sincere wishes for all the best upon his retirement from the State University of New York Board of Trustees and for his lifetime of remarkable public service.