

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-

***RELATIVE TO HONORING
ASIA KAHLESE “BIG BABY” HENRY***

BY:

Council Chairman John Spanbauer
Council Member Traci Bax
Council Member Donta Myles
Council Member Kenny Tomkins
Council Member David Zajac
Mayor Robert M. Restaino

WHEREAS, Asia Kahlese “Big Baby” Henry was born April 13, 1987 to Valencia Bedgood and Ralph Henry in Niagara Falls, NY; and,

WHEREAS, Asia was educated in Niagara Falls’ public schools and was a 2005 Honors graduate of Niagara Falls High School where she received merits for her writing skills. Asia attended Niagara University as an English major and completed certificate and accredited courses including Project Management, Health Care, and Accounting. She studied the Stock Market and learned financial literacy and investing and then shared her knowledge information for free; and

WHEREAS, Asia possessed many gifts and talents such as her artistic abilities to draw, write poetry, model and sing. She was a poet who wrote and performed next level spoken word throughout our area. She was also a true “Hip Hop Head” and lover of music across all genres and, alongside Romone Rose, Asia was one-half of the Rap group “The Blessed”. Asia was also a talented self-taught painter and stylist; and

Bax _____ Myles _____ Tompkins _____ Zajac _____ Spanbauer _____

WHEREAS, Asia's love and concern for people and our community was displayed through her record of volunteerism. Big Baby was an advocate for Non-Violence and Progressive Civic Engagement and worked with local victims of domestic violence. She promoted and encouraged clean eating, healthy living and a consistent exercise regimen. Asia was a Pure Saint who made and gave away cannabis infused edibles to local cancer patients to help ease their pain thru out their treatments and was active in many Lupus Awareness events; and

WHEREAS, she also participated in many local clean-up events in Niagara Falls and Buffalo, was involved in many social media groups that promoted healthy communication and mental health, and provided free face painting for Suga Lips, Inc., Ebony Snow, LLC and Niagara University; and

WHEREAS, many people knew Asia as a makeup artist ("MUA") in the community. Her flair for style led to her creating her own business, "FACECLYMAXX", which she operated at a kiosk at the Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls, USA, and later at her residence. Asia was a local pioneer for women's beauty and was considered to be Niagara Falls' Official Make-Up Lady. A gifted and talented MUA Skilled beyond her years, Asia would go on to mentor and gift other up and coming MUA's with equipment & supplies to help get their passion off the ground. Extremely classy and stylish like a true Aries, Asia also modeled for Kells & Co., HHD, and in many local fashion shows over the years; and

WHEREAS, Asia was loved and adored by her co-workers at her many occupations over the years. In addition to her own business, she was most recently employed with Bank of America and held previous positions with the U.S. Social Security Administration, TeleTech Holdings and H&R Block. Big Baby was also involved local politics in Niagara and Erie County.

She was pro 2nd Amendment and license to carry and an advocate for free speech and government transparency; and

WHEREAS, Asia was proudly known as the protective and loving, mother of her only child, Avery Ham. Asia homeschooled her son for many years to make sure his early education and reading comprehension was at its ultimate level before he re-entered the school system, where he is now an honor student in Charter School; and

WHEREAS, Asia Kahlese Henry entered into eternal rest on February 7, 2022. In addition to her son and her parents, she leaves her brother, Aries Bedgood, sister, Alayah White, one nephew, Aries, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends who will miss her dearly; and

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls should be proud of their daughter, Asia “Big Baby” Henry. A trustworthy, loving and dependable friend to the ones who were blessed to know her, she truly was a gift to our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Niagara Falls City Council and Mayor Robert M. Restaino wish to honor the memory of Asia Kahlese “Big Baby” Henry and recognize her life, service, dedication and commitment to our City and the community at large by designating April 13, 2022, her birthday, as Asia “Big Baby” Henry Day in the City of Niagara Falls.

Bax _____ Myles _____ Tompkins _____ Zajac _____ Spanbauer _____