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IN MEMORIAM - HAROLD FISHER

By the Entire Council

WHEREAS the Council learned with great sorrow of the passing of Harold L. Fisher, a lifelong public servant and true son of New York City, who died on December 26 at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, born in 1910 in the Lower East Side, he graduated cum laude from St. John's University in 1932 and opened a law practice in 1935; and

WHEREAS, over the following decades he built a distinguished career in politics, government and public service beginning with his appointment as a Committee Clerk for the New York City Council in 1953; and

WHEREAS, he was active in Democratic Party politics for four decades and widely recognized as a leading expert on the state's elections laws. He also served as a delegate to the party's national conventions in 1960 and 1976; and

WHEREAS, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller appointed him to the newly-created Metropolitan Transit Authority in 1968. He went on to become Vice Chairman and Chairman, negotiating two labor agreements during the 1970's fiscal crisis without a strike or fare increase. He also served as Chairman of the American Public Transit Association; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career he was generous in his service to the community. He was Commissioner of the Brooklyn Bridge Centennial, Chairman of the Convention Center Development Corporation, President of the Brooklyn Bar Association and Vice President of Union Temple; and

WHEREAS, he was devoted to the late Betty Kahn, his wife of 63 years, and proud of his family. He is survived by his children Leonard, Alice, Stephanie, Andrew and Kenneth, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of New York honors the life of Harold L. Fisher and sends its condolences to his family.