



Legislation Text

File #: Res 0438-2002, **Version:** *

Res. No. 438

Resolution supporting Reverend David Benke, President of the Atlantic District, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, who was recently suspended from his denomination's clergy roster for participating in the patriotic civic event at Yankee Stadium on September 23, 2001.

By Council Members Dilan, Davis, Felder, Jackson, Nelson and Serrano

Whereas, In the wake of the terrible attack that occurred in New York City on September 11, 2001, former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani organized a patriotic civic event held at Yankee Stadium on September 23, 2001, which included religious leaders of diverse faiths; and
Whereas, Reverend David Benke, President of the Atlantic District, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School in Brooklyn, participated in this program, which was held to offer comfort and support to all those grieving; and
Whereas, Reverend Benke's presence and participation was comforting to many, and provided an important contribution to the City's healing process after being torn by events unparalleled in this country in violence and terror; and
Whereas, As a result of his participation, Reverend Benke was suspended from the clergy roster of his denomination, although he has served faithfully in Brooklyn and in New York State as a pastor, bishop, and civic leader, providing housing, education and care to all people regardless of race, creed, religion or country of origin; and
Whereas, Reverend Benke's participation in this important event should be recognized as a wonderful gesture of support for a City and its people in great pain, and his actions should be appreciated for the comfort they provided; and
Whereas, Reverend Benke should additionally be recognized for his leadership as the chairman of Lutheran Disaster Response of New York; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York supports Reverend David Benke, President of the Atlantic District, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, who was recently suspended from his denomination's clergy roster for participating in the patriotic civic event at Yankee Stadium on September 23, 2001.

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