



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title: Dept/ Agency: Mayor's Office
Action: () Ratifying (X) Authorizing () Amending
Type of Service: Declaration by the Mayor
Day: Every Third Sunday of the Month
Event Name: Brea Knight Day
Additional Information:

Sponsors: John Sharpe James, Gayle Chaneyfield Jenkins

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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/19/2016	2	Municipal Council	Adopt	Pass

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Event Name: Brea Knight Day
Additional Information:

WHEREAS, Brea Knight, based out of Newark, New Jersey, known under her stage name as, "Blkbrry Mollasezz" was a beloved poet, hairstylist, activist, founder, and CEO of the Breathing Poets Society, a non-profit organization that focused on using poetry to celebrate and educate the community; and

WHEREAS, Brea Knight was recognized as one of the first three women in Evolve New Jersey's Women's Herstory Celebration, now known as "Flowers of Life" and also a recipient of the Leadership Award on behalf of her organization, "With Your Kids"; and

WHEREAS, Brea Knight continuously gave back to her community through her art, dedication, and spirit. demonstrating her gifts throughout the City at events which include: the July 2014, inaugural ball of the Honorable Ras J. Baraka; the funeral of the late poet and playwright Amiri Baraka; the McDonalds Gospel Fest; the Lincoln Park Music Festival; 24 Hours of Peace; Dodge Poetry Festival; and Africa Newark Fest; and

WHEREAS, Brea Knight shared stages with poet Sonia Sanchez and singer/activist Harry Belafonte, whom Knight opened for during his appearance at Newark Symphony Hall; and

WHEREAS, a self-published author, she has four poetry collections entitled, "A Dollar and a Dream," "A Peace of the Pie," "Up Close and Personality," and "Dreamer"; and

WHEREAS, on August 14, 2016, Brea Knight passed away due to complications from diabetes, leaving behind her powerful uplifting words that changed the mindset of the people nationwide and in her community; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ras J. Baraka desires to honor Brea Knight for her dedication and devotion to the community and City of Newark by declaring every third Sunday of a Month, "Brea Knight Day"; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council of the City of Newark supports the Mayor's desire to honor Brea Knight by way of this declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

1. The Mayor hereby authorizes and declares every third Sunday of a Month to be "Brea Knight Day."

STATEMENT

This resolution authorizes the Mayor, and the Municipal Council supports, honoring Brea Knight by declaring every third Sunday of the Month to be "Brea Knight Day."