WHEREAS, Mayor David Dinkins was born David Norman Dinkins on July 10, 1927 in Trenton, New Jersey, as the son of a barber and real estate broker; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins graduated from Trenton Central High School in 1945 and attempted to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps but was denied because of the color of his skin; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins was later drafted and served with the U.S. Marine Corps in Korea; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins graduated from Howard University in Washington, D.C. with a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and earned his Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School in New York; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1965, and later served as President of the New York City Board of Elections, City Clerk, and Manhattan Borough President; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins was elected the 106th Mayor of New York City in 1989, becoming the first Black mayor in the City’s history; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mayor Dinkins began the transformation of Times Square, rehabilitated housing in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Harlem, and expanded the National Tennis Center in Queens; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins brought other leaders into his administration who mirrored the City’s diversity, and initiated many of the changes that renewed New York City’s place on the world stage as a cultural epicenter, including the creation of Fashion Week, Restaurant Week, and Broadway on Broadway; and
WHEREAS, in 1994, Mayor Dinkins became a professor at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, where he remained until his passing; and

WHEREAS, during that time, Mayor Dinkins remained active in New York City politics as the host of a weekly radio show; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins received numerous awards and acknowledgements throughout his long career, including, most notably, the renaming of the City’s municipal building as the David N. Dinkins Municipal Building on October 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins married Joyce B. Dinkins in 1953, and the two had a son, David Dinkins, Jr., and a daughter, Donna Dinkins, and remained married until Joyce’s death in October 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dinkins passed away on November 23, 2020, at the age of 93; and

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness that we mourn the passing of Mayor Dinkins and extend our deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor the exemplary character, selflessness, and cherished memory of Mayor Dinkins and to mark his passing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PHILIP D. MURPHY, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Monday, November 30, 2020, in recognition and mourning of a dedicated and tireless public servant, Mayor David Dinkins.
2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this 25th day of November, Two Thousand and Twenty, and of the Independence of the United States, the Two Hundred and Forty-Fifth.

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Parimal Garg
Chief Counsel to the Governor