



# The Assembly State of New York



## Proclamation

In honor of

**Dr. Lila Miller**

for her contributions to shelter medicine

- Whereas,** *I am proud to acknowledge those organizations and individuals that are committed to improving our state and enriching the community; and*
- Whereas,** *Dr. Lila Miller is a groundbreaking veterinarian who has transformed the lives of countless pets, educated a generation of students and paved the way for women of color in veterinary medicine; and*
- Whereas,** *a Harlem native, Dr. Miller became the first Black American woman to graduate from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1977, where she later taught the first-ever veterinary shelter medicine course; and*
- Whereas,** *Dr. Miller was long a fixture of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, first serving as the director of the Brooklyn clinic for 15 years before transitioning to roles as veterinary advisor, vice president of veterinary outreach, and vice president of shelter medicine; and*
- Whereas,** *Dr. Miller co-founded the Association of Shelter Veterinarians and developed the first veterinarian-written guidelines for shelter animal care – which are now used nationwide – ensuring humane treatment and preventative care; and*
- Whereas,** *today we celebrate Dr. Lila Miller, Mother of Shelter Medicine, her trailblazing career and well-deserved 2021 Avanzino Leadership Award from Maddie's Fund for her leadership in shelter medicine*
- Proclaimed** *I, Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick, do hereby commend Dr. Lila Miller for her contributions to the State of New York in advancing shelter medicine.*

Dated: July 2021

In Witness Whereof, I Have Hereunto  
Set My Hand and Signature

**Deborah J. Glick**

New York State Assembly  
66<sup>th</sup> Assembly District