PROPOSED RESOLUTION
APPROVING THE NAMING OF
15 WASHINGTON STREET ON THE NEWARK CAMPUS AS
“RUTH BADER GINSBURG HALL”

WHEREAS, the naming of a building in a public institution offers the opportunity to reflect on the institution’s core values and aspirations, and to honor individuals of high scholarly distinction who have contributed in exceptional ways to the public good; and

WHEREAS, the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a legal giant, having served as Justice on the United States Supreme Court, a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, a trailblazing litigator for equal rights and justice, and a law professor at Rutgers Law School in Newark from 1963 to 1972; and

WHEREAS, legal scholars, biographers, former colleagues and students, and Justice Ginsburg, herself, have noted that her time at Rutgers was an inflection point in her career, with legal scholars noting that Ginsburg was both pioneering the teaching of women’s rights in law school and blazing the trail forward in the courts to assure those rights; and

WHEREAS, Ginsburg remained connected to Rutgers throughout her life after leaving the University, maintaining close contacts with faculty colleagues and students whom she had taught and mentored, and on the occasion of the dedication of the Center for Law and Justice in September 1999 as the new home for the Law School, Ginsburg returned to give the keynote address, during the course of which she identified herself with the school’s longstanding tradition of scholarship, teaching, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, 15 Washington Street, one of Newark’s most distinguished buildings, with a long and storied history, was the home of the Rutgers Law School–Newark from 1979 through 2000, and is now a residential facility housing upwards of 330 undergraduate and graduate students, including many law students; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2020, at the request of Chancellor Nancy Cantor, on behalf of the Rutgers University–Newark community, the University Naming Committee considered and approved naming 15 Washington Street “Ruth Bader Ginsburg Hall” and thereafter recommended approval to Rutgers President Jonathan Holloway who also approved the name; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2020, the Committee on Finance and Facilities reviewed the proposed naming and recommended approval by the Board of Governors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of President Jonathan Holloway, the University Naming Committee, and the Committee on Finance and Facilities, the Board of Governors of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, approves the naming of the building at 15 Washington Street on the Newark Campus as “Ruth Bader Ginsburg Hall.”

Board of Governors
Rutgers, The State University
of New Jersey
December 17, 2020