

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Taiwanese American Association of New York upon the occasion of celebrating the 2013 Passport to Taiwan Festival

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Taiwanese American Association of New York upon the occasion of celebrating the 2013 Passport to Taiwan Festival; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on Sunday, May 26, 2013, at Union Square Park in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The Passport to Taiwan Festival began in May of 2002 as a celebration of Taiwanese-American Heritage Week and Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Now in its 12th year, the Passport to Taiwan Festival has become the largest celebration of Taiwanese heritage in the United States, drawing 30,000 visitors from throughout the New York metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, At the Passport to Taiwan Festival each year, participants can sample local delicacies from Taiwan, observe dough figurine makers and calligraphy masters at work in the arts and crafts area, learn about various organizations and agencies, play children's games, learn about traditional Taiwanese toys in the interactive area, fold cranes in the kids workshop area, and learn more about Taiwan and Taiwanese Americans in the exhibition area; and

WHEREAS, Taiwanese culture has become integrated into the fabric of life in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The Taiwanese-American community has also made an impact locally by its outstanding efforts in response to the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, President Bush signed legislation which named May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; in 1999, Congress designated the second week in May as Taiwanese American Heritage Week to recognize the contributions of Taiwanese Americans; in addition, President Clinton later issued a proclamation to congratulate the Taiwanese American community; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Taiwanese American Association of New York and to the Passport to Taiwan Festival; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when an organization and events of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Taiwanese American Association of New York upon the occasion of celebrating the 2013 Passport to Taiwan Festival; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Taiwanese American Association of New York.