

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Amsterdam Elks Lodge No. 101

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 who are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is also the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to fraternal organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Amsterdam Lodge Club No. 101 to be celebrated on Saturday, September 14, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) is one of the oldest and largest fraternal organizations in the United States; established in 1928, the Elks National Foundation is the charitable arm of the BPOE; over the years, the Foundation has contributed millions toward Elks' charitable projects nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1867, "The Jolly Corks" was a group of 15 actors and entertainers, interested largely in associating with a group of like-minded individuals; by 1868, their members had recognized the impact they could have as a "benevolent and protective society," and moved to bring permanence to their cause; and

WHEREAS, It was in this purpose that the Amsterdam lodge was formed; established in 1888, Amsterdam Lodge No. 101 is the 12th oldest Elks Lodge in continuous operation in New York State, and 84th in the nation; and

WHEREAS, The Amsterdam Lodge has had many locations throughout its history, and has provided many services and entertainments to its community, but has always been notable in its dedicated, enthusiastic, and earnest membership; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, the Amsterdam Lodge membership welcomed its first female member; since that time, many women have joined the ranks, and have played a significant role in the programs and activities of the Lodge; and

WHEREAS, The B. P. O. Elks organization is dedicated to a variety of community programs, focusing on the local youth, veterans, and families in need; the Amsterdam Lodge is highly involved in the national scholarship program, Hoop Shoot, Drug Awareness, Veteran's recognition and outreach, Halloween Day parade, and many other programs focusing on Community Investment and Americanism; and

WHEREAS, Organizations of singular distinction such as Amsterdam Elks Lodge No. 101 of Amsterdam, New York, merit the grateful praise of the community and of the State of New York; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Amsterdam Elks Lodge No. 101; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to the Amsterdam Elks Lodge No. 101.