

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 204th Anniversary of the Mexican Declaration of Independence from Spain on September 16, 2014

WHEREAS, Highly developed cultures, including the Olmecs, Mayans, Toltecs, and Aztecs, existed long before the Spanish conquest of Mexico by Hernan Cortes in 1521; and

WHEREAS, Father Miguel Hidalgo declared the Mexican independence from Spain September 16th, 1810, in the city of Dolores, in the central state of Guanajuato; and

WHEREAS, Father Hidalgo's famous proclamation, "End to bad government!", popularly known as the "Grito de Dolores" (the cry of Dolores), was the beginning of a decade-long war of independence; and

WHEREAS, On December 6, 1810, Hidalgo decreed the abolishment of slavery in the city of Guadalajara, for the first time in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, In 1811, Hidalgo and his followers were captured and executed in the state of Chihuahua; Hidalgo's leadership was then assumed by Father Jose Maria Morelos; and

WHEREAS, In 1813, the Congress of Chilpancingo, convened by Morelos, signed the "Solemn Act of the Declaration of Independence of Northern America"; Father Morelos was subsequently captured and executed by the Spanish Crown; and

WHEREAS, In 1820, with the insurgency about to collapse, Spain sent an army led by General Agustin de Iturbide, who instead of quenching the revolts, joined its forces; and

WHEREAS, In 1821, the formerly Spanish General Agustin de Iturbide and representatives of the Spanish Crown, signed the Treaty of Cordoba, recognizing Mexican Independence from Spain; and

WHEREAS, After a short period of a monarchic government, in 1824, a republican constitution was drafted and Mexico would then be led by its first President, Guadalupe Victoria; and

WHEREAS, Mexico's war for independence was one of the longest in all of the Americas; and

WHEREAS, Many Mexicans have made New York their home, and this Legislative Body is justly proud to thank the Mexican people for their contributions to this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 204th Anniversary of the Mexican Declaration of Independence from Spain on September 16, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ambassador Sandra Fuentes-Berain, Consul General of Mexico in New York, and the various Mexican civic organizations in the State of New York.