

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

WHEREAS, The mission of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is to exemplify that all Jews are responsible for one another and to improve the well-being of vulnerable people around the world; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding in New York in 1914, JDC has become the world's leading Jewish Humanitarian Assistance Organization reaching out to more than 1,000,000 lives a year; and

WHEREAS, Today, JDC works in over 70 countries and in Israel to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create lasting connections to Jewish life, and provide immediate relief and long-term development support for victims of natural and man-made disasters; and

WHEREAS, For over a century, JDC's response to overseas war, famine, political upheaval, and disasters has been recognized and supported by the U.S. Government and American NGOs; and

WHEREAS, JDC was founded during World War I on the premise of aiding starving Jews in Palestine and Europe and whose programmatic scope now serves individuals across the globe by bringing U.S. developed social initiatives to Israel for at-risk children and young adults; transferring its Supportive Community model in Israel for the elderly to North America's naturally occurring retirement communities (NORCs) and to South Africa; training Latin Americans, Europeans and others in developing effective homeland-Diaspora partnerships and policies on immigration, integration and temporary/forced migration; and disaster-preparedness training for local NGOs and responders in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, and Israel; and

WHEREAS, JDC manages social service networks that provide food, medicine, home care, shelter and heating, employment centers and job-training services throughout Europe and Russia, fosters civic engagement and community throughout Israel, provides educational, economic and community development support throughout the Middle East and North Africa, provides life-saving spinal surgeries and cancer treatments throughout East Africa, developed small business loan funds and job training centers in Latin America, while mobilizing expert professional staff and local, U.S., Israeli and global partners to provide immediate relief and long-term recovery to victims of disasters around the world; and

WHEREAS, JDC has proven for a century to create programs and solutions benefitting the neediest populations in communities across the globe, confronting some of the most difficult challenges and thus deserves recognition from the State of New York where its global headquarters has been for a century; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.