

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Town of Gates, New York, April 1, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize events of significance which exemplify the history and development of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Each and every city, town, village and hamlet within its borders proudly resonates with the rich and noble history of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is also the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commemorate the anniversary of the founding of municipalities throughout the State, noting in turn their contributions to the fabric and progression of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Town of Gates, New York; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on Monday, April 1, 2013, at the Gates Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, The founding of the Town of Gates, New York, evolved from an early transaction of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase with the sale of Town No. 1 in the Short Range of the purchase on November 8, 1790 to a group of investors from Northampton and Springfield, Massachusetts; the town they purchased became known as Northampton and included present-day Gates, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1808, the residents of Northampton petitioned the New York State Legislature to create the Town of Gates; it was named in honor of General Horatio Gates, the American Revolutionary War officer; and

WHEREAS, On June 10, 1812, the New York Legislature enacted Chapter 122 of the Laws of 1812 to create the Town of Gates, effective April 1, 1813; and

WHEREAS, The founding of the Town of Gates is inherently linked to the settlement of western New York State; and

WHEREAS, To celebrate the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Town of Gates, New York, on April 1, 2013, the Gates Town Board will be in period costume to acknowledge the birth of Gates by decree and proclamation; and

WHEREAS, In addition, on May 27, 2013, there will be a Memorial Day service to honor the five branches of the military and acknowledge the heroes of Gates' past dating back to the nation's Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, On June 29, 2013, the Town of Gates will hold its Grand Celebration of its 200th Anniversary; this celebration will include a parade, food vendors, ceremonial annexation of old Rochesterville and the Town of Greece, and recognition of outstanding citizens, as well as music and fireworks; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the rich history and enduring contribution of the Town of Gates to the heritage of the State of New York, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to join in commemorating the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Town of Gates so that present and future generations may come to appreciate the unique significance which its history plays in the progression of our State and Nation's evolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Bicentennial Anniversary of the Town of Gates, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Town Supervisor of Gates, New York.