

SENATE RESOLUTION providing for a Senate Select Committee on State-Native American Relations

WHEREAS, New York state ranks ninth in the nation in terms of the size of its Native American population, with more than 100,000 New Yorkers noting their American Indian ancestry in the 2010 federal census; and

WHEREAS, New York state has a government-to-government relationship with nine American Indian nations; and

WHEREAS, It is recognized that an open forum is needed to promote better relations between Native Americans and New York state and local governments, and to inform the Senate in matters pertaining to the needs of Native Americans in areas such as education, economic development, social services, transportation, employment opportunities, health, housing, and other rights and services offered by New York state, as well as other issues impacting Native Americans, their territories, and surrounding communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a Select Committee on State-Native American Relations is hereby established, to hold public hearings for gathering information and making legislative proposals and recommendations to state agencies, to provide outreach to and interaction with private organizations that assist Native Americans, and to make recommendations on Native American-related legislative proposals and resolutions before the state legislature, with all such activities to be conducted in the advancement of meaningful dialogue between state and Native American leaders on matters of common interest; and be it further

RESOLVED, The Select Committee shall consist of eleven Senators, to be appointed by the Majority Coalition leaders, pursuant to membership composition as set forth under Senate Rule VIII. The chairperson of such committee shall be appointed by the Majority Coalition leaders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That such committee shall have the same authority as committees constituted under Article 4 of the Legislative Law and Senate Rule VII.