

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 3, 2016, as Doughnut Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges noteworthy events in America's history which deserve special recognition such as the creation of the doughnut; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 3, 2016, as Doughnut Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Doughnut Day; and

WHEREAS, National Doughnut Day started in 1938 as a fundraiser for Chicago, Illinois' The Salvation Army; their goal was to help the needy during the Great Depression, and to honor The Salvation Army "Lassies" of World War I, who served doughnuts to soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Soon after the entrance of the United States into World War I in 1917, The Salvation Army sent a fact-finding mission to France which concluded that the needs of United States enlisted men could be met by canteens or social centers called huts; volunteers in huts could serve baked goods, provide writing supplies and stamps, and provide a clothes-mending service; and

WHEREAS, About 250 Salvation Army volunteers went to France to staff the huts which typically included two male staff members and four female volunteers who could "mother" the boys; these huts were established by The Salvation Army in the United States near army training centers; and

WHEREAS, After experiencing difficulties with providing freshly baked goods from huts which were established in abandoned buildings near the front lines, two Salvation Army volunteers, Ensign Margaret Sheldon and Adjutant Helen Purviance, came up with the idea of providing doughnuts; and

WHEREAS, The doughnuts were reported to have been an instant hit, and soon many soldiers were visiting The Salvation Army huts; often on one day, volunteers could be busy baking 22 pies and making 300 doughnuts; and

WHEREAS, Soon, the women who made the doughnuts became known by the servicemen as Doughnut Dollies; Doughnut Dollies were women volunteers of The Salvation Army who traveled to France in 1918 to support United States soldiers; and

WHEREAS, A misapprehension has taken hold that the provision of doughnuts to United States enlisted men in World War I is the origin of the term "doughboy" to describe United States infantry; however, that term was in use as early as the Mexican-American War of 1846-47; and

WHEREAS, In addition, during the Second World War, Red Cross Volunteers also distributed doughnuts, and it became routine to refer to the Red Cross women as Doughnut Dollies; and

WHEREAS, In Chicago, National Doughnut Day is still a fundraiser for The Salvation Army; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 3, 2016, as Doughnut Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Doughnut Day; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.