

BY: Senator PERALTA

COMMEMORATING 196 years of Honduran Independence
on September 15, 2017

WHEREAS, Before the Spanish conquest, Honduras was home to the Mayans, Lencas and other indigenous societies; these autonomous groups lived in both light conflict and commercial cooperation with each other and other societies in Mexico and Panama; and

WHEREAS, On July 30, 1502, Christopher Columbus first saw Honduran soil and he claimed the territory in the name of Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile, naming it Honduras; and

WHEREAS, Between 1523 and 1526, numerous Spanish expeditions arrived in Honduras and established their colony, which would for some time be a part of the Captaincy General of Guatemala; and

WHEREAS, Honduras was a large colonial-era supplier of gold, silver and tropical fruits; and

WHEREAS, By October 1537, the Lenca chief, Lempira, a warrior of great renown, had managed to unify more than two hundred native tribes in order to offer an organized, but eventually defeated, resistance against penetration by the Spanish conquerors; and

WHEREAS, Honduras gained independence from Spain on September 15, 1821, at which time the country was annexed to the Mexican Empire until 1823, when it joined the United Provinces of America, lasting until 1838; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate 196 years of Honduran Independence on September 15, 2017.