

BY: Senator STAVISKY

RECOGNIZING the celebration of September 25, 2017,
as Bangladeshi Immigrant Day by the Muktheadhara
Foundation

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the people of this State acknowledge significant milestones of historical importance; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to recognize the celebration of September 25, 2017, as Bangladeshi Immigrant Day by the Muktheadhara Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Bangladeshi immigrants started arriving in the United States in the late 19th Century; they left behind the hard economic and political times of the still developing Bangladesh which achieved independence from Pakistan in 1971; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Bangladesh Independence Day reminds us of the ancient culture which has emerged as one of the foremost examples of the integration of various languages and cultures to realize a nation which incorporates varied backgrounds and histories to provide for an independent nation; and

WHEREAS, Bangladeshi-Americans have contributed to the leadership, economy and vitality of our great State and Nation; they have become engaged in community life and are represented among a wide array of professions working together in the labor force, with many of them holding professional or managerial positions; and

WHEREAS, In the last 50 years, Bangladeshi immigration has increased substantially with a half-million people residing in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The New York City metropolitan area has tens of thousands of Bangladeshi immigrants residing there and many have found a new home in communities in the borough of Queens; and

WHEREAS, Bangladeshi immigrants in New York have established diaspora organizations to promote the Bengali language, culture and assist the region's development; and

WHEREAS, On September 19, 1974, Bangladesh was accorded membership in the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, On September 25th, Sheik Mujibur Rahman addressed the 29th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in his native Bangla language even though he was fluent in English, the first time anyone delivered a speech in that language at the U.N.; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the significance of the September 25, 1974, speech at the United Nations to the Bangladeshi people, the Muktadhara Foundation will celebrate Bangladeshi Immigrant Day on September 25, 2017, an event which will be attended by Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize the celebration of September 25, 2017, as Bangladeshi Immigrant Day by the Muktadhara Foundation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed be transmitted to Bishawjit Saha, President of the Muktadhara Foundation.