

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMEMORATING the 90th Anniversary of the Peace Bridge

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to support the preservation and commemoration of historical landmarks which express and preserve the social and cultural origins of this great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Peace Bridge; and

WHEREAS, On August 7, 1927, the Peace Bridge was officially dedicated to celebrate the 100 years of peace between the United States and Canada; during the opening ceremony, attendants included The Prince of Wales, Prince George; Canadian Prime Minister, William Lyon Mackenzie King; British Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin; United States Vice President, Charles Dawes; Secretary of State, Frank Kellogg; New York Governor, Al Smith and Ontario Premier, Howard Ferguson; and

WHEREAS, As the second-busiest business border crossing between the United States and Canada, it is an integral part of our trade industry; billions of dollars in trade cross the bridge every year bringing goods from all over Canada through Fort Erie, Ontario and from the United States through Buffalo, New York across the Peace Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Built with steel from Lackawanna's Bethlehem Steel Company, the bridge took 11 months to build, measuring at 4,400 feet long and 9,000 tons at completion; spanning from Fort Erie to Buffalo, the main span of the bridge crosses the canal at a height of 100 feet; and

WHEREAS, The Peace Bridge has been a prodigious addition to the economic growth in the Buffalo area, bringing many tourists to the area to walk across the bridge and enjoy the breathtaking views of the Niagara River, Lake Erie, and the City of Buffalo skyline; and

WHEREAS, Visitors of this modern architectural marvel are also able to view two exhibits, "Mewinzha - A Journey Back in Time" and "The Bridge that Peace Built", which explain the history of the bridge as well as the economic, historical, cultural and familial ties Canada and New York share; and

WHEREAS, Recently, the Peace Bridge pioneered a new sustainable light system, that uses just one-third of the energy of the previous system; this renovation was funded by the United States Federal Transportation Enhancement Program with support from the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to join in the celebration of the 90th Anniversary 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 90th Anniversary of the Peace Bridge, as well as recognize its significant history and dynamic symbolism to the alliance that the United States has with Canada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Byron Brown, Mayor of Buffalo.