

**BY:** M. of A. De La Rosa

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 26, 2017, as the 204th Anniversary of Juan Pablo Duarte Day in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** The people of the Dominican Republic acquired autonomy and sovereignty on the 27th day of February 1844; and

**WHEREAS,** The Island of Quisqueya, the indigenous name for what later became the island of Hispaniola, was the cradle of thinking and advancement in the western hemisphere, establishing the first university and cathedral of the New World; and

**WHEREAS,** On the 26th day of January 1813, Juan Pablo Duarte, the founding father of the Dominican Republic, was born; and

**WHEREAS,** During the month of January 2017, Dominicans will celebrate the 204th Anniversary of Juan Pablo Duarte's birth; and

**WHEREAS,** Juan Pablo Duarte, along with Francisco Del Rosario Sanchez and Ramon Matias Melia, formed La Trinitaria, a secret organization that initiated the movement for the independence of the Dominican Republic; and

**WHEREAS,** During the month of February 2017, Dominican Nationals and Dominican Americans from throughout the Dominican Republic and the United States will celebrate the independence of the Dominican Republic; and

**WHEREAS,** Since the 27th day of February 1966, the Instituto Duarteano, Inc. in New York City, has promoted the memory and accomplishments of Juan Pablo Duarte; and

**WHEREAS,** The Instituto Duarteano is an organization that is dedicated to maintaining and keeping alive the life and history of Juan Pablo Duarte, the liberator and founder of the Dominican Republic; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 26, 2017, as Juan Pablo Duarte Day in the State of New York; in recognition of this auspicious occasion, the members of the Instituto Duarteano will visit Albany, New York, on Friday, February 24, 2017; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York; The Honorable Carlos A. Castillo, Consul General of the Dominican Republic; Bienvenido Lara-Flores, President of the Instituto Duarteano de los Estados Unidos; and Jose Tomas Perez, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the United States.

