

BY: Senator GOUNARDES

COMMENDING Hunter College of the City University
of New York upon the occasion of celebrating its
150th Anniversary

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those exemplary institutions of higher education within the State of New York for their enduring commitment to the pursuit of academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Hunter College of the City University of New York upon the occasion of celebrating its 150th Anniversary with a myriad of events to be held throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, Located on Park Avenue in New York City, Hunter College is a public university which truly values learning in the liberal arts and sciences as a cornerstone of individual development and a vital foundation for a more just and inclusive society; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, Hunter College has strived to promote personal development and self-awareness, foster life-long learning, and equip each and every student with the habits of mind, character, and confidence to embody its motto: The Care of the Future is Mine; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its 150-year history, many distinguished individuals have graduated from Hunter College such as Nobel Laureates, Rosalyn Sussman Yalow, Gertrude B. Elion; in addition to these notable luminaries, numerous others have gone on to become Pulitzer Prize winners, National Medal of Science winners, Presidential Medal of Freedom winners, elected officials, and leaders in various fields across the globe; and

WHEREAS, In 1870, Hunter College was established as the nation's first free teacher's college, and was known as the Female Normal and High School, and then as the Normal College of the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1914, the college adopted its current name in honor of its founder and first President Thomas Hunter, and under his progressive leadership, the school became known for its rigorous academics, pursuit of higher education for women, high entry requirements, and impartiality regarding race, religion, ethnicity, financial or political favoritism; and

WHEREAS, Even though the institution began as a teaching college, the curriculum quickly expanded to a broader liberal arts program, and a summer session began in 1916; shortly thereafter, students were offered evening and extension classes for the first time, and in 1921, graduate-level courses were introduced to the female student body; and

WHEREAS, In 1961, Hunter College was incorporated into the City University of New York (CUNY), and three years later, it began admitting men; today, more than 20,000 students are enrolled in 170 academic programs which equip them with the tools to succeed in their chosen professions; and

WHEREAS, For 150 years, Hunter College's undergraduate, graduate and professional curricula have challenged students to think critically, to approach problems from multiple perspectives, distinguish the questions each raises, and recognize the kinds of evidence each values; and

WHEREAS, Under the visionary guidance of President Jennifer J. Raab, Hunter College truly stands proud and prominent, always looking to the future and the needs of those it serves; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, Hunter College may look back with pride upon its humble beginnings, find just satisfaction in its purposeful growth and hold true of purpose in its dedication to serving the educational needs of its students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Hunter College of the City University of New York, noting the propriety of its goals, the constancy of its commitment and the significance of its accomplishments in preparing the youth of today and leaders of tomorrow; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jennifer J. Raab, President, Hunter College of the City University of New York.