

BY: Senator MYRIE

RECOGNIZING the 24th Anniversary of Black and Afro-Costa Rican Culture Day on August 31, 2022

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those of true purpose and worthy accomplishment who foster a spirit of community and service and, simultaneously, work diligently to preserve their rich cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to recognize the 24th Anniversary of Black and Afro-Costa Rican Culture Day on August 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Black and Afro-Costa Rican Culture Day was established to promote the contributions of the African diaspora in Costa Rica, and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against people of African descent; and

WHEREAS, A non-mandatory pay holiday in Costa Rica, this vital day is observed on August 31st, though the date of the official holiday will be the following Sunday after August 31st; and

WHEREAS, In August of 2021, the National Assembly deputies approved, in the first debate, a bill to declare August 31st, the Day of the Black Person and Afro-Costa Rican Culture, free for the working population; and

WHEREAS, The declaration as a non-compulsory holiday is a necessary recognition and responds to a wide clamor of the Limonense population with the purpose of consolidating this celebration; and

WHEREAS, In addition, this would allow broad participation of all the inhabitants of the country in the activities carried out around this date; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to recognize those important days of recognition which remind us of the rich and diverse heritage of our great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, It is duly fitting that all New Yorkers join in these important celebrations of one of our State's most vibrant communities; this much anticipated observance and its accompanying activities will foster greater appreciation for Afro-Costa Rican culture and serve to promote the spirit of cooperation that is characteristic of all citizens of New York State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize the 24th Anniversary of Black and Afro-Costa Rican Culture Day on August 31, 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Consulate General of Costa Rica in New York.