

Assembly Resolution No. 384

BY: M. of A. Rajkumar

COMMEMORATING the Pakistani-American community's celebration of Pakistan Independence Day, on August 14, 2021

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those who foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Pakistani-American community's celebration of Pakistan Independence Day, on August 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Observed annually on the 14th of August, Pakistan Independence Day commemorates the day when Pakistan achieved independence and was declared a sovereign state; and

WHEREAS, In the Islamic calendar, the day of independence coincided with Ramadan 27, the eve of which, being Laylat al-Qadr, is regarded as sacred by Muslims; and

WHEREAS, The main Independence Day ceremony takes place in Islamabad, where the national flag is hoisted at the Presidential and Parliament buildings; it is followed by the national anthem and live televised speeches by leaders; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, usual celebratory events and festivities for the day include flag-raising ceremonies, parades, cultural events, and the playing of patriotic songs; several award ceremonies are often held on this day, and Pakistanis hoist the national flag atop their homes or display it prominently on their vehicles and attire; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that there are over 550,000 Pakistani-Americans in the United States with the largest population being in the State of New York, primarily located in Queens and Brooklyn with a population of over 75,000 people and Pakistani-Americans have been an important part of our country for many years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to acknowledge various cultures of people who add to the overall diversity of our State and, on this occasion, we take the opportunity to recognize the contributions made by the Pakistani-American community and extend best wishes to all of its members as they hold appropriate ceremonies to commemorate this historic milestone; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Pakistani-American community's celebration of Pakistan Independence Day, on August 14, 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Consul General of Pakistan, and notable Pakistani organizations.