

BY: M. of A. Heastie

COMMEMORATING the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11
terrorist attacks on New York State and the Nation

WHEREAS, September 11, 2021, marks the 20th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks that forever changed New York, our country and the world; and

WHEREAS, We honor the memory of those who lost their lives in those devastating attacks on our State and Nation, memories that will forever remain with their families and will live in the hearts of every New Yorker and every American; and

WHEREAS, To those who were lost and the loved ones they leave behind, to those who were there to help, we will never forget; and

WHEREAS, On the morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001, 19 terrorists hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States; two of the planes were flown into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, These cowardly attacks resulted in 2,977 fatalities, over 25,000 injuries, and countless first responders who have died or continue to suffer from illnesses related to serving at Ground Zero, in addition to at least \$10 billion in infrastructure and property damage; and

WHEREAS, Of those who perished during the initial attacks and the subsequent collapses of the towers, 343 were New York City firefighters, 23 were New York City police officers and 37 were officers at the Port Authority; and

WHEREAS, Every New Yorker and every American remembers where they were on the morning of September 11, 2001, when they heard about the attacks; and no matter age, race or religion we were all affected; whether we knew someone who perished, heard about a first responder's bravery, or watched the tragedy unfold on the news; for weeks, perhaps even months, we were glued to our televisions, hoping to witness a miracle; and

WHEREAS, Across the country, people came together as Americans, putting flags outside their homes and businesses, and lining up at the Red Cross to donate blood for those in need; and

WHEREAS, Every year since, at the site of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, Americans come together to hold memorials, reciting the names of those lost, so they will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, Ten years after the terrorist attacks that changed our world, we dedicated the National September 11 Memorial, where waterfalls that occupy the footprint of the Twin Towers are surrounded by the names of those lost in the attacks; and in 2014, the National September 11 Museum opened to the public, where people can come to learn and to reflect; and

WHEREAS, Today, 20 years later, we come together as a nation to remember and pay homage to those who perished in these horrific attacks and to honor those first responders who gave the ultimate sacrifice as they ran to help those in mortal danger; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York State and the Nation.