

BY: Senator TEDISCO

COMMEMORATING the St. George Greek Orthodox Church and their Parish Council upon the occasion of celebrating its 47th Annual St. George Greek Festival in the City of Schenectady

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those outstanding individuals and religious organizations who, through deeds and achievements, add significantly to the welfare and quality of life for their region and community while paying homage to rich traditions and heritage; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the St. George Greek Orthodox Church and their Parish Council upon the occasion of celebrating its 47th Annual St. George Greek Festival on Liberty Street in the City of Schenectady, New York, from September 8-10, 2023; and

WHEREAS, The year 2023 marks the 202nd Anniversary of Greek Independence; and

WHEREAS, The Greek people proudly trace their heritage back thousands of years in Europe, where they developed an advanced civilization unlike any the world had yet seen; and

WHEREAS, A two-family wooden house located at 107 Clinton Street in Schenectady was purchased for the purpose of using it as a church, and on April 19, 1915, is recorded the legal transaction of the transfer of the property for the sum of \$1.00 from Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kansas, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Svolos, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Contompasis and Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Stathes to the Hellenic Orthodox Church of St. George; and

WHEREAS, Each year after Labor Day, the Annual St. George Greek Festival is held, which was established in 1976 and has been a staple in the Schenectady community, with the help of St. George Greek Orthodox Church and their Parish Council; and

WHEREAS, The Annual St. George Greek Festival features three days of delicious homemade Greek food including moussaka, spanakopita, dolmades, souvlaki and mouthwatering pastries including baklava, kataifi, and loukoumathes, as well as live music, folk dancing, arts and crafts and raffles; and

WHEREAS, Organizers, sponsors and many volunteers and supporters work diligently and commit their time and energy to make the annual St. George Greek Festival a premier attraction in the City of Schenectady and a resounding success year in and year out; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those New Yorkers of Hellenic descent for their enduring contributions

to the educational, social, moral and economic principles that are so deeply ingrained in the fabric of our country and State, along with those events that celebrate this significant rich heritage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the St. George Greek Orthodox Church and their Parish Council upon the occasion of celebrating its 47th Annual St. George Greek Festival on Liberty Street in the City of Schenectady from September 8-10, 2023, and to publicly encourage the citizens of New York to reflect upon the contributions of the Greek community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to St. George Greek Orthodox Church and their Parish Council.