

BY: Senator SEPULVEDA

COMMEMORATING the 180th Anniversary of the Independence of the Dominican Republic to be celebrated on February 27, 2024

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to commemorate historical events which exemplify the spirit and struggle of peoples throughout the world to achieve independence and live in peace and freedom; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 180th Anniversary of the Independence of the Dominican Republic to be celebrated on February 27, 2024; and

WHEREAS, The people of the Dominican Republic acquired autonomy and sovereignty on the 27th day of February 1844; and

WHEREAS, The Island of Quisqueya, the indigenous name for what later became the island of Hispaniola, was the cradle of thinking and advancement in the western hemisphere, establishing the first university and cathedral of the New World; and

WHEREAS, Juan Pablo Duarte, along with Francisco Del Rosario Sanchez and Ramon Matias Melia, formed La Trinitaria, a secret organization that initiated the movement for the independence of the Dominican Republic; and

WHEREAS, During the month of February 2024, Dominican Nationals and Dominican Americans from throughout the Dominican Republic and the United States will celebrate the independence of the Dominican Republic; and

WHEREAS, There are over one million Dominicans who call New York State their home and over two million Dominican Nationals living across the United States, comprising one of the fastest growing immigrant groups in our State; and

WHEREAS, Today, we recognize the numerous contributions of Dominican and Dominican Americans to our great State adding to the cultural and economic vibrancy of New York; Dominicans are leaders of industry leaving their impact on music, literature, cuisine, fashion, film, sports, education, government and politics; and

WHEREAS, The 180th Anniversary of the Independence of the Dominican Republic provides an opportunity to recognize the significance of their contributions to the quality and character of life, and, through events and activities, for all people to gain a greater appreciation of Dominican history and traditions, and of the role Dominicans have played, and will continue to play, in our society; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize such events of significance which foster ethnic pride and exemplify the cultural diversity that represents and strengthens the fabric of the people and the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 180th Anniversary of the Independence of the Dominican Republic to be celebrated on February 27, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to various Dominican organizations in New York State.