

BY: Senator CHU

COMMEMORATING the Asian-American community's celebration of the Lunar New Year, the Year of the Dragon, on February 10, 2024

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to honor, with pleasure and great pride, the Asian-American community of the State of New York upon the occasion of the celebration of the Lunar New Year; and

WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year is a festival of great importance in Asian-American communities; the celebration of the Lunar New Year is fundamental to Asian-American cultures and promotes both goodwill and self-reflection; it is a joyous occasion welcomed annually with distinguishing festivities and much preparation; the celebration of the Lunar New Year is a tradition by which Asian Americans proclaim the arrival of a new year and look forward to what it will bring; and

WHEREAS, According to one legend, Buddha invited the animals of the world to visit him, rewarding those who came by naming a year in their honor; each animal, in turn, gave its characteristics to those born during its year; and

WHEREAS, On February 10, 2024 - January 25, 2025, in accordance with their calendar and beliefs, Asian Americans will joyously usher in the Year of the Dragon; and

WHEREAS, The Dragon is the fifth in the twelve-year cycle of animals that appear in the Chinese zodiac related to the Chinese calendar; the Year of the Dragon is associated with the Earthly Branch symbol; and

WHEREAS, The Dragon is a noble and powerful animal, full of vitality and idealism; people born in the Year of the Dragon usually have confident and courageous personality traits; they are ambitious and hold lofty ideas that they aspire to use for the benefit of their communities, and they are charismatic and fearless leaders that will tackle any challenge; and

WHEREAS, Those born under the sign of the Dragon are a symbol of power, nobility, honor, and luck in Chinese culture; 2024 is predicted to be a year of opportunity and change; and

WHEREAS, The distinguished beauty of the Asian culture and the contribution of its people in business and the economy as well as in the arts and sciences has left substantial impacts on our global community; the contributions of Asian Americans are particularly esteemed within the Empire State and are acknowledged for their outstanding merit and value; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the significance of their contributions to the City and State of New York, this Legislative Body is proud to honor all New Yorkers of Asian ancestry, joining with them in welcoming the Year

of the Dragon, on February 10, 2024; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Asian-American community's celebration of the Lunar New Year, the Year of the Dragon, on February 10, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to distinguished members of the Asian-American community.