

**BY:** Senator MAYER

**HONORING** Koji Sato in recognition of his work to achieve recognition of Fred Korematsu's life and work, and for his work to promote knowledge of Japanese and Japanese-American history and culture, and to foster a strong US-Japan relationship

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the profound impact of those exemplary organizations and individuals within the great State of New York which proactively work for the empowerment of cultural communities, and the importance of such work which benefits all citizens of this State, and indeed, all citizens of the Nation, should be rightfully commended; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Koji Sato in recognition of his work to achieve recognition of Fred Korematsu's life and work, and for his work to promote knowledge of Japanese and Japanese-American history and culture, and to foster a strong US-Japan relationship; and

**WHEREAS,** Koji Sato is a leader in the Japanese American community in New York, currently serving as President of the Japanese American Association of New York, Inc. (JAA) and Council Leader of the U.S.-Japan Council; and

**WHEREAS,** JAA was founded in 1907, and has a 117-year history of serving the Japanese and Japanese American community in the tri-state area through its bilingual social services, educational programs and community outreach; U.S.-Japan Council is a non-profit organization that works to connect global leaders to create a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to these roles, Koji Sato is a Co-Chair of the Asian American Advisory Board of Westchester County, New York, and serves on the Board of Governors of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles; and

**WHEREAS,** Professionally, Koji Sato is Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Orient Corporation of America, a subsidiary of Orient Chemical Industries, Co., Ltd. based in Osaka, Japan; and

**WHEREAS,** Prior to joining Orient, Koji Sato was an attorney at the law firm of Kelley Drye & Warren LLP in New York City; he is admitted to practice law in New York and Connecticut and holds a J.D. from New York Law School and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colgate University; and

**WHEREAS,** Our society is greatly benefited by the purposeful efforts of individuals who unite for the cause of improving the quality of life for others, and who proactively work toward the goal of dignity for all; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Koji Sato in recognition of his work to achieve recognition of Fred Korematsu's life and work, and for his work to promote knowledge of Japanese and Japanese-American history and culture, and to foster a strong US-Japan relationship; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Koji Sato.