

BY: Senator THOMAS

COMMENDING the International Cricket Council upon the occasion of hosting the India vs. Pakistan Match during the historic ICC Men's T20 World Cup on June 9, 2024

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the International Cricket Council upon the occasion of hosting the India vs. Pakistan Match during the historic ICC Men's T20 World Cup on Sunday, June 9, 2024, at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium; and

WHEREAS, Dating back to the 17th century, cricket was introduced to North America through the English colonies, and the sport spread globally throughout the centuries; in the 21st century, cricket has grown immensely and introduced the Twenty20 format in 2003, which revolutionized the game with its fast-paced, three-hour matches; and

WHEREAS, The ICC has 25 members in the Asia region, including India and Pakistan, and is dedicated to expanding the sport's footprint; the highly anticipated match between arch-rivals India vs. Pakistan will take place at the world class Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in front of a 34,000-capacity crowd; and

WHEREAS, In September of 2007, India triumphed over Pakistan in the final of the first-ever ICC World Twenty20 in Johannesburg, South Africa; as a testament to the sports growing popularity, the match drew a worldwide TV audience of over 400 million viewers; and

WHEREAS, This historic game served as the catalyst for the creation of the Indian Premier League (IPL) the following year, sparking the establishment of additional Twenty20 leagues globally; and

WHEREAS, Cementing cricket's place in the global sports arena, the inaugural Men's Twenty20 International took place in 2005; the sport has achieved a passionate fan base and the ICC strives to reach a remarkable level of engagement as these intense matches approach the world stage; and

WHEREAS, The evolution brought on by the high-stakes competition of Twenty20 leagues has transformed cricket into a year-round sport for modern cricketers; the India-Pakistan cricket rivalry is renowned for its intensity and draws a global fanbase; and

WHEREAS, Matches between India and Pakistan are highly anticipated

and widely viewed and the match at Nassau County International Cricket Stadium is expected to be a highlight of the cricketing calendar, drawing attention and excitement from fans around the world; and

WHEREAS, Widely known as the Shaheens (Falcons) or Green Shirts, the Pakistan cricket team is one of the most successful and popular cricket teams in the world; established in 1952, the team has a rich history and has won a myriad of prestigious tournaments, such as the ICC Cricket World Cup in 1992, the ICC T20 World Cup in 2009, and the ICC Champions Trophy in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Governed by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), the Pakistan cricket team produces remarkably talented cricketers, including Imran Khan, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, and more recently, Babar Azam, this year's team captain; their cricketing style being characterized by its unpredictability, flair, and passionate fan base, the team is renowned for its formidable fast bowlers, skilled spinners, and dynamic batsman; and

WHEREAS, Known as the Men in Blue, the India cricket team is widely recognized for their success and is governed by the Board of Control for Cricket In India (BCCI); and

WHEREAS, Their first Test match dating back to 1932, the India cricket team has produced some of the finest cricketers and is known for their strong batting lineup, including players such as Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Sourav Ganguly, and current stars such as Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, and Rohit Sharma, the captain of the India cricket team; and

WHEREAS, Cementing India's status in international cricket, achievements of the India cricket team include winning the ICC Cricket World Cup twice, first in 1983 and again in 2011, and winning the inaugural ICC T20 World Cup in 2007 and the ICC Champions Trophy in 2013; and

WHEREAS, The India cricket team is known for their formidable bowling attack, with players that are fast bowlers and world-class spinners; and

WHEREAS, The success of the International Cricket Council is in direct correlation to the efforts of its leadership, and dedicated staff and volunteers, whose involvement are, and always have been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the International Cricket Council upon the occasion of hosting the India vs. Pakistan Match during the historic ICC Men's T20 World Cup

on June 9, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to International Cricket Council.