

Assembly Resolution No. 1066

BY: M. of A. Cunningham

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 7, 2024, as St. Vincent Flag Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those official days which are set aside to foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 7, 2024, as St. Vincent Flag Day in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, St. Vincent Flag Day celebrates the rich culture of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and its people, including the history, language, arts, food, music, and traditions; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the day is to raise awareness and understanding about the Saint Vincentian culture, celebrate the independence of Saint Vincent, as well as to strengthen the pride of Saint Vincentians and their youth; and

WHEREAS, St. Vincent and the Grenadines gained Independence from the United Kingdom on October 27, 1979, and adopted their flag on October 22, 1985; the blue represents the sky and sea; the gold is for warmth, the bright spirit of the people and the golden sands of the Grenadines; the green represents the lush vegetation of St. Vincent's agriculture and the enduring vitality of the people; and

WHEREAS, There is a significant Vincentian diaspora in Brooklyn, New York; Vincentians have lived in the New York area since the 1900s, some of whom came to the United States after working on the Panama Canal; and

WHEREAS, Today, there are approximately 14,000 immigrants from St. Vincent and the Grenadines living in New York City; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to urge the citizens of New York State to join those from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as they rejoice in the accomplishments of their ancestors by memorializing February 7, 2024, as St. Vincent Flag Day; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim February 7, 2024, as St. Vincent Flag Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New

York.