

Assembly Resolution No. 2312

BY: M. of A. McDonald

COMMEMORATING the 80th Anniversary of the
commissioning of the U.S.S. SLATER DE766

WHEREAS, Museums which serve the best interests of the people of this Empire State merit the commendation of this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the commissioning of the USS SLATER DE766, and to celebrate this milestone of the last Destroyer Escort that has been restored and still afloat in the United States; and

WHEREAS, On Saturday, June 15, 2024, a celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the commissioning of the U.S.S. Slater will be held at The Hanger at 743 in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The commissioning of the U.S.S. SLATER DE766 occurred on May 1, 1944, in Tampa Florida; and

WHEREAS, Commissioning is the ceremony by which a ship is placed in active duty; and

WHEREAS, The U.S.S. SLATER DE766 is now a Destroyer Escort Historical Museum moored on the Hudson River in Albany, New York; the ship arrived in Albany on October 26, 1997; and

WHEREAS, On March 9, 1943, the U.S.S. SLATER's keel was laid at the Tampa Shipbuilding Company; and

WHEREAS, On February 13, 1944, the U.S.S. SLATER was launched and christened, sponsored by Mrs. Nora Slater, mother of Seaman Frank O. Slater who was killed in action aboard the U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO CA-38 off Gaudalcanal; and

WHEREAS, On June 24, 1946, the U.S.S. SLATER was decommissioned at Green Cove Springs, Florida; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, 563 Destroyer Escorts battled Nazi U-boats on the North Atlantic protecting convoys; while in the Pacific, these ships stood in line to defend naval task forces from Japanese submarines and Kamikaze air attacks; and

WHEREAS, This ship has been designated as a National Historic Landmark; and

WHEREAS, The U.S.S. SLATER has undergone an extensive restoration to enable visitors to return to 1945 to see how sailors walked, hear the sound of a living ship, touch a piece of American history and walk the decks where hundreds of sailors walked before; the museum offers hour-long guided tours, youth group overnight camping, and a historic location to hold naval reunions; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when museums 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 is justly proud to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the commissioning of the U.S.S. SLATER DE766; and be it further

RESOLVED That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Timothy C. Rizzuto, Executive Director Destroyer Escort Historical Museum U.S.S. SLATER DE 766.