

Assembly Resolution No. 513

BY: M. of A. Epstein

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim
May 2023, as Lower East Side History Month in the
State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the proud and distinguished histories of the neighborhoods which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to recognize May 2023, as Lower East Side History Month; and

WHEREAS, Lower East Side History Month emphasizes the diversity, small businesses and artistic achievements of the Lower East Side, a neighborhood in the southeastern part of the New York City borough of Manhattan which includes the East Village, Chinatown, Two Bridges and Loisaida; and

WHEREAS, The Lower East Side of Manhattan is home to a vibrant and diverse community of New Yorkers who represent different backgrounds and cultures; and

WHEREAS, Public housing was first established in the Lower East Side, pioneering the effort to provide affordable housing for low-income New Yorkers, which can be seen in the Lower East Side Tenement Museum; and

WHEREAS, The Lower East Side has always welcomed immigrants and helped set them on a path to becoming independent and strong New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community have historically found acceptance in the Lower East Side in centers such as the Henry Street Settlement at a time when they faced discrimination and bigotry in almost all other parts of the country; and

WHEREAS, The Lower East Side is the traditional home to musicians and artists and the birthplace of punk rock, contributing to the culture of the neighborhood, of New York City, and of the country; and

WHEREAS, Community gardens are a persistent feature of the Lower East Side, created while New York City was suffering from financial and physical despair, and signify the preservation of community-owned public spaces despite constant gentrification and displacement; and

WHEREAS, The Lower East Side has a unique and rich history which is symbolic of the resiliency of New York City and of its residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2023, as Lower East Side History Month 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.