

Senate Resolution No. 1680

BY: Senator FERNANDEZ

COMMEMORATING the Inaugural Celebration of Bronx
Day on March 10, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate events of historical significance, most notably during important moments such as the 400th Anniversary of the founding of New York City and the 250th Anniversary of the United States, that enrich the cultural diversity, heritage, and quality of life within the communities of the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Inaugural Celebration of Bronx Day on March 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, On March 10, 2026, the best of the Borough of the Bronx will be on display at the Capitol in Albany, New York; this event will put the spotlight on the Bronx and include an evening reception featuring foods and beverages as well as a display of some of the favorite dining establishments in the Bronx; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of the Bronx derives its name from the Bronx River-New York City's only freshwater river-named for Jonas Bronck, a 17th-century Swedish merchant associated with the Dutch West India Company; and

WHEREAS, Long before European colonization, the Bronx was part of Lenapehoking, the ancestral homeland of the Lenape people, encompassing what is now known as the metropolitan Tri-State area; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx was the site of significant engagements during the American Revolution, helping to shape the emerging nation; this legacy is preserved at historic locations including Van Cortlandt Park and Mansion, the Morris family burial crypt at St. Ann's Church, and the Stockbridge-Mohican Memorial; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx bears the history of African enslavement and, as New York City's only mainland borough, also served as a corridor to freedom, with documented Underground Railroad routes along present-day Third Avenue, Boston Road, and the Bronx River; and

WHEREAS, The area now known as the Bronx was formerly part of New York County until achieving independent county status in 1914, becoming the 62nd and most recent county established in New York State; and

WHEREAS, The official seal of the Bronx, featuring an eagle atop a globe above a shield depicting a rising sun over a calm sea and bearing the Latin motto "Ne Cede Malis" ("Yield Not to Evil"), is derived from the Bronck family crest; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx's development has been shaped by generations of immigrants-both forced and voluntary-including enslaved Africans who labored on its early roads, Irish immigrants who constructed the Croton Aqueduct and High Bridge, Italian immigrants who built the Jerome Park Reservoir, the New York Botanical Garden, and the Bronx Zoo, and the many diverse communities who continue to contribute to the borough's civic, cultural, and economic life; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx is home to renowned landmarks including Yankee Stadium, the Bronx Zoo, the New York Botanical Garden, Pelham Bay Park, Van Cortlandt Park, the Edgar Allan Poe Cottage, and the High Bridge; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx is internationally recognized as the birthplace of hip-hop, a cultural movement that emerged in the 1970s and has become a global force in music, art, fashion, and social expression; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx serves as a center of education and culture, with institutions such as Fordham University, CUNY Lehman College, and Monroe College awarding thousands of degrees annually, and cultural institutions including the Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture enriching community life; and

WHEREAS, With a population approaching 1.4 million residents, the Bronx is one of the nation's most diverse urban communities, shaped by deep African American, Caribbean, Latino, and immigrant histories; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx supports a diverse economy employing approximately 575,000 individuals, with health care and social assistance, retail trade, and educational services representing leading employment sectors; and

WHEREAS, The Bronx is home to several long-standing institutions and employers that have shaped the Borough's economy for generations, including Montefiore Health System, NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi, BronxCare Health System, and Yankee Stadium, which together provide thousands of jobs and serve as economic anchors for the community; and

WHEREAS, Public transportation is integral to daily life in the Bronx, where a majority of workers rely on buses, subways, and regional transit systems; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of the Bronx stands as a testament to resilience, cultural vitality, historic significance, and enduring community spirit, and continues to shape the identity and future of the State of New York through its contributions in art, education, commerce, public service, and civic leadership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Inaugural Celebration of Bronx Day on March 10, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Office of the Bronx Borough President and the Bronx

Chamber of Commerce.