

BY: Senator SEPULVEDA

COMMEMORATING April 8, 2026, as the One-Year Anniversary of the Jet Set nightclub tragedy in the Dominican Republic, and paying tribute to the many lives lost and injured in the incident

WHEREAS, The Dominican American community significantly contributes to the culture, strength, economy, and vitality of New York State; the Dominican American community was deeply shocked and profoundly impacted by the tragedy that occurred on April 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, On April 8, 2025, in the City of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, the Jet Set nightclub tragically became the site of one of the deadliest accidents in the nation's history, claiming the lives of 236 individuals and injuring more than 180 others; and

WHEREAS, In solidarity with the Dominican American community, this Legislative Body is justly proud to take time to commemorate April 8, 2026, as the One-Year Anniversary of the Jet Set nightclub tragedy in the Dominican Republic, and to pay tribute to the many lives lost and injured in the incident; and

WHEREAS, On April 8, 2025, at approximately 12:34 AM, the roof of the Jet Set nightclub collapsed during a concert, resulting in hundreds of deaths and injuries to nightclub attendees, concertgoers, politicians, musicians, employees, staff members-all of whom were loved and cherished members of their communities, families, and friends; and

WHEREAS, The Jet Set night club was renowned for its night events and attracting distinguished guests and prominent attendees; an eminent merengue singer, Rubby Perez, who once performed at the United Palace Theatre in Washington Heights, also known as the center of the Dominican diaspora in New York City, lost his life in this heartbreaking tragedy at the Jet Set nightclub; he inspired millions of people through his extraordinary voice and remains deeply missed; and

WHEREAS, The tragedy also took the lives of two legendary baseball players, Octavio Dotel and Tony Blanco; between 1999 and 2013, Octavio Dotel played 15 seasons in Major League Baseball where he was a hope and role model for myriad baseball fans, including in the U.S. and Dominican Republic; in 2005, Tony Blanco played 56 games for the Washington Nationals in Major League Baseball, and was renowned for his competence, spirit, and commitment to sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, This difficult night in history marks a great loss for humanity, the arts, athletics, and more, with every individual life lost leaving an immeasurable wound in the hearts of the families, friends, fans, and loved ones of those who passed; and

WHEREAS, In such a time of grief and loss, it is necessary and proper to remember those who lost their lives in such a tragic and

untimely manner, and to honor and thank those dedicated heroes who responded quickly in the face of such a disastrous scene, assisting in the rescue efforts and recovery of those trapped in the collapsed structure; and

WHEREAS, The State of New York recognizes and solemnly honors the memory of the victims of the Jet Set nightclub tragedy, reaffirming its commitment to the remembrance of those who lost their lives and were injured in the event; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate April 8, 2026, as the One-Year Anniversary of the Jet Set nightclub tragedy in the Dominican Republic, and paying tribute to the many lives lost and injured in the incident.