

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Angelo Cabrera, Founder and Director of MASA, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2010 La Union Cuauhtli Award

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Angelo Cabrera, Founder and Director of MASA, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2010 La Union Cuauhtli Award; this auspicious event will be celebrated on Saturday, April 24, 2010, at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 411 46th Street, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, La Union is an organization of people from the global south working to advance the social, economic and cultural rights of the communities in which these new immigrants to the United States now live, and the communities they left behind; it is focused on the rights of immigrant parents and students; and

WHEREAS, Based in the vibrant neighborhood of Sunset Park in Brooklyn, New York, one of New York City's largest Mexican immigrant neighborhoods, the 600 members of La Union are predominantly from the Mixteca region of Mexico and from across Latin America; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of its co-directors, Leticia Alanis and Artemio Guerra, La Union is a member-led organization with the goal of empowering new immigrants to be actively involved in shaping the dialogue surrounding immigration policy and reform, as well as to advocate for themselves and their community in cases of exploitation, injustice and inequality; and

WHEREAS, La Union's Cuauhtli Award is based on the word "Cuauhtli" which is Nahuatl for eagle; in Aztec culture, the eagle was the symbol of strength and only the most brave and fearless were admitted to the Order of the Eagle; the leaders of La Union present the Cuauhtli Award to recognize the contribution of immigrant leaders, activists and organizations to advance the social, cultural and economic rights of New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican-American Students' Alliance (MASA) is the recipient of La Union's 2010 Cuauhtli Award; this award will be accepted on behalf of MASA by Angelo Cabrera, Founder and Director of MASA; and

WHEREAS, MASA provides positive guidance and support for underserved youth of Mexican descent living in New York City; it encourages its participants to strive to their fullest potential by setting and achieving academic goals through a tutoring and mentoring program; by fostering cultural and civic awareness, it empowers a future generation of active and involved citizens; and

WHEREAS, Angelo Cabrera has also been honored for his community service by the City Council of New York and received a Certificate of Merit from the New York State Office of the Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, A member of CUNY's Mexican Task Force and the Student Count Council Committee for the United States Census Bureau, Angelo Cabrera has collaborated with community leaders, Baruch College, CUNY and the Mexican Consulate in his work with the Mexican-American community; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to Angelo Cabrera, MASA, and La Union; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are

brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Angelo Cabrera, Founder and Director of MASA, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2010 La Union Cuauhtli Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Angelo Cabrera, MASA and La Union.