BY: Senator KAVANAGH

HONORING the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians upon the occasion of commemorating Irish Republic Day on April 21, 2020

WHEREAS, The Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, the oldest and largest Irish-American organizations, are dedicated to perpetuating the history and traditions of the Irish people and to promoting Freedom for all Ireland; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians upon the occasion of commemorating Irish Republic Day, the date of the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic, to be observed on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, the date closest to Irish Republic Day, April 24th, with a gathering at the Capital District Irish American Association in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that heroic events in Ireland in 1920, during Ireland's historic "Black and Tan War" for Independence, which made possible the achievement of freedom and independence for 26 of Ireland's 32 counties, be in this centennial year, duly remembered, honored and commemorated; and

WHEREAS, The death on Hunger Strike of Cork Mayor Terence MacSwiney and his words, "It is not those who can inflict the most but those who can endure the most who will conquer" were renowned worldwide, and are remembered today; and

WHEREAS, The courage of Irish patriots, including the martyrdom of Cork Mayor Tomas MacCurtin, and Kevin Barry, Bloody Sunday at Croke Park in Dublin, and the burning of Cork City, were and continue to be seen an inspiration; and

WHEREAS, It is particularly fitting that these events be commemorated in New York, due to the historic and indispensable part which Ireland's exiled children across New York State played in those events, and also due to the worthy contributions made by Irish Americans to the freedom, liberty, culture, and economic well-being of this great Empire State and the Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians upon the occasion of commemorating Irish Republic Day on April 21, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.