

BY: Senator KAMINSKY

COMMEMORATING the 50th Anniversary of New York Sea Grant

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that the continuing welfare of the citizens of the State of New York is greatly enriched and reliably served by the purposeful endeavors of organizations and individuals who are committed to the preservation of our natural environment and the enhancement of the appreciation of the distinctive features of our surroundings, and to the economic well-being of the areas in which they exist; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of New York Sea Grant; and

WHEREAS, New York State hosts 3,400 miles of diverse Great Lakes and marine coastline which provides jobs for 7.5 million people earning \$566 billion, contributing over \$1.4 trillion in gross domestic product; 81% of the State's population live and work near the coast; and

WHEREAS, New York's coastal waters play an important role in the economy and community well-being, protecting the State's coasts and the resources and ecosystem services they support is essential; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1971, New York Sea Grant is a community-based organization of integrated stakeholder-driven research, education, and extension services promoting coastal economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and citizen awareness and understanding about the State's marine and Great Lakes resources; and

WHEREAS, New York Sea Grant, one of 34 university-based programs under the National Sea Grant College Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, is a cooperative program of the State University of New York and Cornell University; and

WHEREAS, New York Sea Grant's funded research, extension, and education have provided the State's coastal communities with the information and tools needed to make informed decisions to keep our coastal ecosystems, communities, and economies healthy, sustainable, and resilient; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, New York Sea Grant has supported actionable research and provided community-based programming to support, for example, safe and clean boating; sustainable seafood and aquaculture industries; property owners, businesses, municipalities to plan, prepare, and respond to coastal hazards such as flooding, sea level rise, and extreme storms; understanding and mitigation of emerging contaminants and other water quality issues; and the next generation of coastal scientists and stewards through Kindergarten-12, undergraduate, and graduate educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, For five decades, New York Sea Grant has stayed true to its mission of "Bringing Science to the Shore" through high quality research, extension, and education; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon all citizens to recognize and applaud the efforts of organizations such as New York Sea Grant which work tirelessly on behalf of protecting our natural surroundings for the benefit of present and future generations of New Yorkers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of New York Sea Grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to New York Sea Grant.