Senate Resolution No. 856

BY: Senator SEPULVEDA

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 25, 2023, as El Dia Del Bodeguero in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize illustrious businesses which positively impact and substantially contribute to the vitality of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim Sunday, June 25, 2023, as El Dia Del Bodeguero in New York State; and

WHEREAS, El Dia Del Bodeguero translates to "The Day of the Bodeguero" in English; a bodeguero is an owner or worker of a small owner-operated convenience store, known as a bodega; and

WHEREAS, Bodegas are vital to urban environments, offering grocery staples and hot food; these stores are characteristic of communities and are typically rooted in Puerto Rican and Cuban heritage; and

WHEREAS, The term "bodega" was derived from the Spanish word for "storeroom" or "wine cellar," and has been adapted to modern language to represent convenient grocery stores in cities all over the nation, but most notably, in the northeast of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, In more recent years, bodega ownership has spread further than Cuban and Puerto Rican influence, with approximately 65 percent of New York bodegas being owned by Dominicans, and 35 percent comprising of a mix of other ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, A bodeguero's involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment and an uncompromising standard of excellence on behalf of the business and the community they serve; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges these exceptional businesses and their contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident that they will continue to enjoy the sparkling successes they have experienced thus far; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 25, 2023, as El Dia Del Bodeguero in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.