Assembly Resolution No. 656

BY: M. of A. Jean-Pierre

COMMEMORATING the 79th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion on June 6, 2023

WHEREAS, June 6, 2023, will mark the 79th Anniversary of the Allied assault at Normandy, France, by troops of the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, known as Operation Overlord; and

WHEREAS, The naval phase of the Allied assault at Normandy was coded, Operation Neptune, and the date June 6, 1944, is referred to as D-Day to denote the day on which the combat attack was initiated; and

WHEREAS, The D-Day landing was the largest combined armed amphibious assault in history including approximately 132,600 members of the Allied Expeditionary Force, including 57,500 members of the United States Armed Forces, more than 23,000 airborne troops supporting the seaborne landings and more than 14,000 sorties by Allied aircraft; and

WHEREAS, It consisted of five infantry divisions, two American, two British, and one Canadian, assigned to beaches code named, from west to east Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword; and

WHEREAS, The Americans constituted the United States 1st Army, under Major General Omar Bradley, and the British 2nd Army, under General Miles Dempsey; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces was General Douglas D. Eisenhower; and

WHEREAS, Of the approximately 10,000 Allied casualties incurred on the first day of the landing, more than 6,000 were members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, The Allied Assault and following operations were supported by ships, aircraft, and troops from Australia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Free Norway, Greece, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and the Polish Armed Forces in the West; and

WHEREAS, The Normandy campaign was a stunning success; by early September 1944, all but a fraction of France had been liberated and American and British/Canadian forces occupied Belgium and part of the Netherlands and had reached the German frontiers; and

WHEREAS, The State of New York owes a debt of gratitude to the members of the military who participated in this historically significant event; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when events of such historical consequences are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all its citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 79th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion on June 6, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the National World War II Museum located in New Orleans and the National D-Day Memorial located in Virginia.