

Senate Resolution No. 1814

**BY:** Senator PARKER

**HONORING** St. Cecile Lodge No. 568, Free and Accepted Masons, Grand Lodge of New York, upon the extraordinary occasion of its 160th Anniversary on March 22, 2026

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those venerable institutions within the Masonic Family whose enduring works of brotherhood, fellowship, and civic uplift have enriched the cultural, spiritual, and social fabric of our communities; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor St. Cecile Lodge No. 568, Free and Accepted Masons, Grand Lodge of New York, upon the extraordinary occasion of its 160th Anniversary, to be celebrated on Sunday, March 22, 2026; and

**WHEREAS,** St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 was constituted in 1865, when twelve Brothers of the musical profession, both vocal and instrumental, presented a petition to Deputy Grand Master Robert D. Holmes seeking to establish something virtually unprecedented in the history of Freemasonry: a daylight lodge, born of necessity and ingenuity, so that those whose professional obligations occupied their evenings might yet enjoy the privileges and fellowship of the Craft; and

**WHEREAS,** The founding Brothers sought not only to serve themselves, but to open the doors of Freemasonry to their fellow artists and musicians, envisioning a "Masonic Musical Corps" that would add greater interest and ceremonial distinction to the works of the Craft; a vision as noble and forward-thinking as it was unique; and

**WHEREAS,** In the 160 years since its constitution, St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 has welcomed into its ranks individuals of extraordinary distinction from the worlds of music, performance, and the broader entertainment industry, among them the legendary illusionist Harry Houdini, celebrated entertainer Al Jolson, renowned jazz musician Bobby Hackett, and pioneering film producer Louis B. Mayer - a brotherhood whose collective contributions to American culture and artistic life are without parallel; and

**WHEREAS,** Through six generations of dedicated Brothers, St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 has upheld the timeless principles of Freemasonry: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, while honoring the unique artistic heritage upon which it was founded, and has continued to serve as a distinguished and storied institution within the Grand Lodge of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Providing distinguished leadership for this momentous celebration is Worshipful Master Lance Green, whose dedicated stewardship and commitment to the principles of the Craft have guided

St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 with honor and integrity; under his leadership, the Lodge continues to uphold the proud legacy upon which it was founded

and to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood that have defined it for 160 years; and

**WHEREAS,** The 160th Anniversary of St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 stands as a testament to the Lodge's enduring vitality, its unwavering commitment to the Craft, and its remarkable legacy of brotherhood, cultural excellence, and community service across more than a century and a half; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and commend St. Cecile Lodge No. 568, Free and Accepted Masons, Grand Lodge of New York, upon the magnificent occasion of its 160th Anniversary, and to recognize its extraordinary legacy of brotherhood, artistic distinction, and devoted service to the principles of Freemasonry; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body extends its congratulations and warmest regards to the Officers, Brothers, and members of St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 on this momentous milestone, and expresses its sincere admiration for the Lodge's continued commitment to the Craft and to the communities it so faithfully serves; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 as a token of this Legislative Body's esteem and highest regard.