

Senate Resolution No. 2121

**BY:** Senator SCARCELLA-SPANTON

**COMMEMORATING** the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commemorate significant historical milestones of great importance to the State of New York and the Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** July 4, 2026, marks the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States of America, a momentous occasion honoring two and a half centuries since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, when our Nation first asserted its commitment to liberty, equality, and self-governance; and

**WHEREAS,** This Semiquincentennial represents an opportunity to reflect upon the enduring ideals of freedom, democracy, and civic responsibility that have guided the United States through periods of challenge and triumph alike; and

**WHEREAS,** The State of New York has played a pivotal role in the history of the United States, serving as a center of revolutionary activity, a gateway for generations of immigrants, and a continuing symbol of innovation, diversity, and resilience; and

**WHEREAS,** In recognition of this historic milestone, Sail4th 250 will organize a once-in-a-generation celebration in New York City, bringing together the largest international gathering of tall ships and naval vessels ever assembled, alongside a wide array of public programming during the first week of July 2026; and

**WHEREAS,** This extraordinary event will highlight New York City's historic and ongoing connection to maritime heritage, international cooperation, and cultural exchange, while offering residents and visitors alike the opportunity to engage in educational, cultural, and civic activities that honor the Nation's founding principles; and

**WHEREAS,** The commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States provides a meaningful and inclusive opportunity to celebrate the diversity of the American people, recognize the contributions of all communities, and reaffirm a shared commitment to building a more perfect Union; and

**WHEREAS,** It is fitting and proper that this Legislative Body pause to honor the significance of this historic anniversary and to commend the organizers, participants, and communities contributing to its observance; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body hereby commemorates the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America on July 4, 2026, and recognizes the significance of this historic milestone; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body applauds Sail4th 250 for its leadership in organizing a landmark celebration in New York City, showcasing maritime heritage, international friendship, and civic pride; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body encourages all citizens to participate in commemorative activities, reflect upon the Nation's history, and renew their dedication to the principles of liberty, justice, and equality for all; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the organizers of Sail4th 250.