Assembly Resolution No. 29

BY: M. of A. Rajkumar

COMMEMORATING the 400th Anniversary of the city of New York, New York to be celebrated in 2025

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the proud and distinguished histories of the communities which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the city of New York, New York; and

WHEREAS, The city of New York officially recognizes 1625 as the year of its founding; and

WHEREAS, New York City traces its origins to the 1620's, when the Dutch West India Company founded a settlement on what is now Governors Island; and

WHEREAS, European settlers arrived at a time when the Lenape, Canarsie, Mohican, Wappinger, and Rockaway tribes lived in the area, which humans have occupied for an estimated 13,000 years; and

WHEREAS, The modern borders of New York City date to 1898, when municipalities consolidated to form the Five Boroughs of Manhattan, Staten Island, Queens, the Bronx, and Brooklyn, and today each borough makes its own unique contributions to the vibrancy of the city; and

WHEREAS, For four centuries, New York City has been the global epicenter of human activity, commerce, industry, the arts, and culture, rightly earning the title of Greatest City in the World; and

WHEREAS, A defining feature of New York City is its unparalleled diversity with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, language, and values; and

WHEREAS, Since the founding of New York City, people from all over the world have converged on the city, many in search of opportunities and freedom from persecution, and today New York City is home to many of the largest diaspora communities in the world; and

WHEREAS, Besides those who come to live in New York City are the 65 million tourists annually who come to take in the sights, sounds, and tastes, making the city the most visited in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Through all its diversity, what unites New Yorkers is respect and tolerance for everyone's customs and beliefs, and people of every background live side-by-side; and

WHEREAS, The history of New York City is one of resilience: whether British invasion, fiscal crisis, terrorist attack, or pandemic, New

Yorkers have always come together to triumph over every challenge and emerge stronger than ever; and

WHEREAS, New York City is the economic engine of our Great State and the entire world, boasting a $1.2 trillion GDP, and home to the world's two largest stock exchanges and the most Fortune 500 companies of any city; and

WHEREAS, A cultural powerhouse, New York City is home to world class museums, the Broadway theater district, concert venues, the Garment District, numerous arts repertories, and restaurants offering every cuisine imaginable; and

WHEREAS, In honor of its Quadricentennial, New York City has launched a year-long Founded by NYC campaign, with celebrations across the Five Boroughs; and

WHEREAS, Remaining fruitful over the ebb and flow of decades of growth and change, the city of New York continues its commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its residents, ensuring a positive business and social climate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the city of New York to be celebrated in 2025, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the community of the State of New York as a whole; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the mayor of the city of New York, the public advocate of the city of New York, the comptroller of the city of New York, the speaker of the New York City Council, the New York Historical, and various institutions in the city of New York.