Assembly Resolution No. 315

BY: M. of A. Romero

CELEBRATING the birthday of Archie the Jr! Archivist, the mascot of the New York State Archives, on April 7, 2025

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations which are dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and appreciation for, the rich history of New York State, recognizing the role that they play in protecting and preserving this storied history, and thereby enhancing the quality of life of the citizenry of this Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to celebrate the birthday of Archie the Jr! Archivist, the mascot of the New York State Archives; this occasion will be commemorated with a birthday celebration at the New York State Museum on Saturday, April 26, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1971, The New York State Archives works to collect, preserve, and provide access to historical and government records of New York State while ensuring that important documents--ranging from colonial-era manuscripts to modern government records--are maintained for research, education, and public use; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Archives also supports educators, students, and historians by offering primary sources, educational programs, and digital resources that promote the study of New York's history and government; the Archives also provides records and archival management services to nearly 4,500 counties, cities, towns, villages, school districts, and other local governments across New York State; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1992, The Archives Partnership Trust, a 501(c)3 organization, works to advance New York State History by making the voices within over 350 years of colonial and State government records housed in the State Archives accessible, relevant, and heard; the trust is governed by a board of directors appointed by the Governor, Board of Regents, and the legislature committed to educational and cultural programming; and

WHEREAS, A new mascot of the New York State Archives, Archie the Jr! Archivist, was introduced in 2024 at the New York State Fair at the State Archives with intentions of boosting student engagement; an interactive Archie's Investigation Station has also been launched at the New York State Museum to encourage hands-on learning; and

WHEREAS, Archie the Jr! Archivist, commonly called "Archie," is a beaver whose birthday is recognized on April 7th each year in alignment with International Beaver Day; the beaver is also the official New York State mammal; and

WHEREAS, "Jr!" is the name of the New York State Archives' magazine for kids; the mascot's backstory includes being the author of the popular magazine, providing a loveable and fun way for the children of the State to connect to the agency and begin their journey of learning the deep and enriching history that our great State is known and revered for; and

WHEREAS, Celebrating its 25th year, the "New York Archives" magazine is the only history themed education publication in circulation on New York State history written for a general audience as told through historical documents from around the State; and

WHEREAS, In his inaugural year, Archie the Jr! Archivist has managed to send over 130,000 copies of his quarterly magazine "New York Archives Jr!" to educators and students across 54 counties in this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, The creation of Archie the Jr! Archivist has increased interest in history and historic preservation in countless children and adults across the State; the celebration of the birthday of Archie the beaver is an occasion worthy of reflecting on the Archive's countless past contributions and its enduring future of possibilities in relation to the preservation and promotion of the vibrant history of our home State of New York; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the birthday of Archie the Jr! Archivist, the mascot of the New York State Archives; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New York State Archives and the New York State Archives Partnership Trust.