Assembly Resolution No. 477

BY: M. of A. Lupardo

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of the New York State Elks Association

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those fraternal organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the New York State Elks Association, to be celebrated at its annual convention in Binghamton, New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Elks Association is proudly celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2025, marking a century of dedicated service, unity, and charitable impact across communities; and

WHEREAS, The Association was organized on September 15, 1925, by Brother J. Damus Steele at 405 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, New York, the home of Brooklyn Lodge No. 32; and

WHEREAS, At that inaugural meeting, Brother Steele was elected as the first State President of the Association, setting a clear agenda to promote the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly and Sisterly Love, and Fidelity; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, the New York State Elks Association provides countless charitable services in communities throughout the world and promotes harmony, friendship, and unity among its esteemed members; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of this esteemed Association is to perpetuate fraternal organization, promote the welfare and happiness of its members, cultivate nobleness of soul and goodness of heart, and assist and protect its members and their families; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding, the New York State Elks Association has elected sixteen presidents, including two emeritus presidents; and

WHEREAS, The current President is Past State President Darryl Leak Sr. of Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, the New York State Elks Association has been proud of its Annual Oratorical, Beauty, and Talent Contests, with winners receiving scholarships to help with their college expenses; and

WHEREAS, As the New York State Elks Association commemorates a century of unwavering service and fellowship, it honors its proud legacy while embracing the promise of continued growth and impact in the years

ahead; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the New York State Elks Association, recognizing its dedication to charity, community service, and the promotion of fraternal values; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New York State Elks Association.