

2009-J879

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating NAFSA: Association of International Educators on celebrating its 61st Anniversary, and recognizing the importance of international education

WHEREAS, NAFSA: Association of International Educators will celebrate its 61st Anniversary in 2009, as the largest organization focusing on international education with nearly 10,000 members nationwide; and

WHEREAS, National Association of Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA): Association of International Educators serves international educators and their institutions and organizations by setting standards of good practice, providing training and professional development opportunities, providing networking opportunities, and advocating for international education; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the importance of international education within its own educational institutions along with other members of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in New York State, and urges for an international education policy that will aid in the expansion of participation; and

WHEREAS, The world has become increasingly interconnected through advances in technology and transportation, and a global perspective is critical in facing the challenges of the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, Providing the future leaders of New York with the broadest possible education will significantly impact our national security, foreign policy, economic competitiveness, economic revenue and capacity for tolerance; and

WHEREAS, International education includes expanding foreign language curricula and academic programs that address global issues and examine other cultures; and

WHEREAS, Today, the development of new knowledge and the best research and technological breakthroughs require international collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Universities, colleges and schools should be encouraged to introduce all New York students to other cultures, foreign languages and global issues, and to provide opportunities to study abroad which will enrich students' perspectives as well as aid in their personal develop-

ment; and

WHEREAS, Evidence of the growing connection between the State of New York and the rest of the world can be found in the Institute of International Education's Open Doors Report 2006/2007; and

WHEREAS, New York State ranked second in the nation with a total number of 64,238 foreign students studying here for the 2006 academic year; these foreign students and their families contributed more than \$1.9 billion to New York's economy; and

WHEREAS, Qualified students and faculty members from other countries should be encouraged to study in New York to further the free exchange of ideas and to facilitate an appreciation of different cultures; and

WHEREAS, The emphasis on international education in the State of New York will strengthen global understanding and build an even stronger foundation for the future of this nation; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the importance of international education and encourages New York institutions of higher education and all other educational institutions of learning to meet the challenges of a global society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate NAFSA: Association of International Educators on celebrating its 61st Anniversary and to recognize the importance of international education; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to NAFSA: Association of International Educators.