

2011-K324

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Unification of Italy

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, representing the people of the State of New York, to join with Italians everywhere in honoring the consummate courage, sacrifice, and vision of the patriots who gave birth to the Italian Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Unification of Italy; to observe this auspicious event, the major celebration will be held June 2, 2011, Republic Day; and

WHEREAS, Numerous other events have been planned including a Concert in Commemoration of the Unification of Italy, sponsored by the Italian Americans for Community Affairs together with INAS/USA/CISL on Wednesday, April 20, 2011, at P. S. 193, Whitestone, New York; the concert will include singers and dancers from Italy; and

WHEREAS, In conjunction with this significant milestone in Italian history, this Legislative Body is pleased to honor the joint efforts of Americans and Italians in fostering freedom, democracy, and our shared values throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, While Italian unification was a process that took decades, the country dates its founding back to 1861, when the Kingdom of Italy was proclaimed; Italy became a Republic in 1946, immediately after World War II; and

WHEREAS, At a time when the United States of America was fighting for the preservation of its own Union, Giuseppe Garibaldi's campaign for the unification of Italy inspired many around the world in their own struggles, including the 39th New York Infantry, also known as "The Garibaldi

Guard"; and

WHEREAS, Italy and the United States are bound by friendship and common dedication to civil liberties, democratic principles, and the universal human rights our countries both respect and uphold; and WHEREAS, Today, the legacy of Garibaldi and all those who unified Italy lives on in the millions of American women and men of Italian descent who strengthen and enrich our great Empire State and our Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Unification of Italy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Italian Americans for Community Affairs.