

## 2013-J1104

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 47th Anniversary of the Independence of Guyana

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay just tribute to the cultural heritage of the ethnic groups which comprise and contribute to the richness and diversity of the community of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in keeping with its time-honored traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate the 47th Anniversary of the Independence of Guyana; and

WHEREAS, The people of this great State and nation and Guyana enjoy a deep and abiding relationship rooted in kinship and culture; and

WHEREAS, Independence Day is a significant public holiday in Guyana; it is celebrated on May 26th every year and it is the day when the country attained its independence in 1966 when British Dominion over Guyana ended; and

WHEREAS, The European voyagers discovered Guyana in 1498; as a result, the history of the country dates back to over 500 years; its history is interrupted by combats wrestled and triumphed, through properties lost and recovered since the French, Spanish, Dutch and British settlers battled for hundreds of years to occupy this territory; and

WHEREAS, The British Empire ultimately was able to take control of Guyana in 1814; the country attained its well-deserved independence from the British rulers on May 26, 1966; and

WHEREAS, In gaining her independence, Guyana today is a nation of 750,000 people that is the only English-speaking nation in South America; its citizens trace their roots across the Caribbean and India; and

WHEREAS, The 47th Anniversary of Guyana's Independence provides an opportunity to recognize the significance of their contributions to the

quality and character of life, and, through events and activities, for all people to gain a greater appreciation of Guyanese history and traditions, and of the role Guyanese have played, and will continue to play, in our society; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize such events of significance which foster ethnic pride and exemplify the cultural diversity that represents and strengthens the fabric of the people and the State of New York; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 47th Anniversary of the Independence of Guyana.