

2015-J192

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 13, 2015, as Korean American Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, When the sons and daughters of other nations move to the United States, the traditions they carry with them greatly enhance and strengthen the American population; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 13, 2015, as Korean American Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Korean American Day; and

WHEREAS, The Korean American community, in the State of New York and around the Nation, honors family values through various events and ceremonies throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, In December 1902, 56 men, 21 women and 25 children left Korea and traveled across the Pacific Ocean on the SS Gaelic, landing in Honolulu, Hawaii on January 13, 1903; and

WHEREAS, The early Korean American community was united around the common goal of obtaining independence for their colonized mother country; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, in the early 1950s, thousands of Koreans, fleeing from war, poverty and political repression, came to the United States seeking opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Korean Americans, like waves of immigrants who came to the United States before them, have taken root and thrived in the United States through strong family ties, community support and hard work; and

WHEREAS, According to the 2010 United States Census, there are over 1.4 million Korean Americans living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, According to the latest United States Census data, Korean

Americans own and operate 192,465 businesses in the country, with an estimated revenue of \$78.6 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, there are 23,948 Korean-owned businesses in New York State, which has the second largest number of Korean-owned businesses in the United States with an estimated revenue of \$7.7 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, Korean Americans have made tremendous contributions to all sectors of our society, such as law, government, the visual and performing, arts, business, academia, medicine and science, including the development of the first beating heart operation for coronary artery disease; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, members of the Korean American community have served with distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The State of New York has always been richer, culturally and socially, as a result of many contributions of its vibrant Korean-American community; New York is also fortunate to have in its midst a substantial number of citizens who trace their origins to Korea; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 13, 2015, as Korean American Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York; the Korean American Association of Greater New York; the Korean American Association of Queens; Korean American Filial Piety, Inc.; and the Korean American Parents Association of Greater New York.