

## 2015-J486

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the University at Albany's Liga Filipina upon the occasion of hosting its 2014 Simbang Gabi

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations and individuals who foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of this great Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the University at Albany's Liga Filipina upon the occasion of hosting its 2014 Simbang Gabi on Sunday, December 7, 2014, in the Campus Center Ballroom, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1994, Liga Filipina is the Filipino organization at the University at Albany, which strives to spread Filipino awareness throughout the campus by hosting events such as workshops, shows, and social gatherings; and

WHEREAS, During these events, Liga Filipina members demonstrate leadership, organization, unity as well as a sense of pride, while teaching the University community aspects of the Filipino culture, through dancing, music, food, and lessons on its history; and

WHEREAS, Simbang Gabi, which translates to "worship night", is a nine-day Novena which traditionally takes place from December 16 to December 24, during which time churches across the Philippines open their doors at dawn for a celebration of Mass; and

WHEREAS, The theme of Liga Filipina's 2014 Simbang Gabi is Gold, in recognition of the final Mass of Simbang Gabi, known as the Golden Mass, and included cultural performances, food, music and dancing; proceeds received during this auspicious event were donated to Gawad Kalinga, a

not-for-profit organization which helps relieve poverty in the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Active within the community it so ably serves, Liga Filipina has given of its time and energies to countless organizations some of which include Capital City Rescue Mission, the Chapel House, JC Club, and the Ronald McDonald House; and

WHEREAS, In its third decade of existence, Liga Filipina continues to promote and encourage interaction and mutual understanding among the members of its club, and educate the community on Filipino culture; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate those events of historical significance which add strength, vigor and inspiration to the cultural diversity and quality of life in the communities of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the University at Albany's Liga Filipina upon the occasion of hosting its 2014 Simbang Gabi; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Liga Filipina, University at Albany, Albany, New York.