

2015-J2376

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Global Organization for the People of Indian Origin upon the occasion of hosting its Annual International Council General Meeting and Community Service Awards

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Global Organization for the People of Indian Origin upon the occasion of hosting its Annual International Council General Meeting and Community Service Awards held on June 5-6, 2015, at the Marriott La Guardia Hotel in New York, New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1989, the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) has been at the forefront in networking for the world-wide overseas Indian community, and is the primary advocate for the estimated 30 million people of Indian ancestry living abroad; and

WHEREAS, The 2015 GOPIO General Meeting will include a comprehensive conference session on Women of the Indian Diaspora; this timely global initiative is being directed by the GOPIO Women's Council, and will highlight the many contributions of overseas Indian women and the need to bring about further improvements in equity at all levels; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the 2015 GOPIO Community Service Awards will recognize outstanding service to the community and public, as well as significant charitable or philanthropic works and contributions which benefit those in need; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Indian Diaspora community have garnered numer-

ous achievements and made significant contributions to their adopted lands; they have also contributed strongly to India's transformation into a modern economy; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, GOPIO has worked to promote the rights and well-being of its constituents by providing an active and well-recognized platform composed of many international chapters and councils for dialogue and discussion among overseas Indians; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed cultural organization has achieved many notable accomplishments including the successful campaign for the establishment of a Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, the campaign for Fiji Human Rights, the Peace March in Germany, the campaign for the United States India Civil Nuclear Treaty, and many other important achievements; and WHEREAS, Under the luminous guidance of President Ashook Ramsaran, GOPIO will continue to strive to represent the interests of members of the Indian Diaspora, while strengthening the bond between overseas Indians and their mother county; and

WHEREAS, The unique beauty of Indian culture and the contribution of its people to literature, the arts and sciences, and to the economy, are well-known and well-appreciated around the world; the achievements of Indian-Americans are especially bountiful throughout the Empire State and are distinguished by their excellence; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those enduring organizations which faithfully devote their resources and purposeful energies to improving the quality and dignity of life in the communities they serve, and to preserving their cultural heritage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Global Organization for the People of Indian Origin upon the

occasion of celebrating its Annual International Council General Meeting and Community Service Awards; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Ashook Ramsaran, President, GOPIO International.