2015-K659

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating John Jay College upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commemorate momentous anniversaries and commend institutions which contribute significantly to the culture, economy, and future prosperity of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate John Jay College upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary during the 2014-2015 school year; and

WHEREAS, A part of the City University of New York (CUNY), John Jay College was founded in 1964, and is named after the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, John Jay College specializes in criminal justice and forensics and has a stellar track record of placing its graduates in government and policy positions across the state and nation; and

WHEREAS, The singular focus which graduates of John Jay College have on criminal justice reform allows them to make a significant impact on our nation's justice system at all levels, with many of the College's alumni holding leadership positions which can be used to advance new, cutting-edge policies; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the leadership roles held by its graduates, John Jay College's 11 vibrant research centers and institutes contribute to the development of best practices and policy, ranging from juvenile delinquency and gang violence to prison reforms and social justice, which is used by corporations, academic researchers, policy makers, practitioners, security professionals, and the media; and

WHEREAS, John Jay College's research has been used by the nationally

recognized Center on Crime Prevention and Control, Center for Cybercrime Studies, the Christian Regenhard Center for Emergency Response Studies, Center for International Human Rights, Center on Terrorism, the Research and Evaluation Center, and the Center on Media, Crime and Justice; and

WHEREAS, John Jay College's highly successful Program for Research Initiatives in Science and Math (PRISM) provides opportunities for students who are majoring in scientific disciplines such as Forensics Science, Cell and Molecular Biology, and Computer Science and Information Security to participate in faculty-mentored research projects in areas like criminalistics, molecular biology, chemistry, toxicology, and computer science; and

WHEREAS, PRISM follows a deep-mentoring model which gives students a comprehensive support system to enhance their scholastic experience, including guidance from student and faculty role models, partnership with community college students in the CUNY Justice Academy, and support for student researchers even before their transition to John Jay College; and

WHEREAS, PRISM's revolutionary system of guidance and support has had a profound impact on the success of John Jay College's science students, tripling graduation numbers from science majors and increasing the number of students, especially underrepresented minority students, moving on to doctoral and medical degrees five-fold; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Professor Anthony Carpi, who created the PRISM program, was honored by President Obama with a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from the National Science Foundation for his efforts to increase mentored student research at John Jay, and CUNY has recognized PRISM as a premier model for the institutionalization of undergraduate research; and

WHEREAS, John Jay College is to be commended for its outstanding record of providing its students with an excellent education, increasing their graduation rates, and preparing them for leadership roles after

they graduate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate John Jay College upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John Jay College.