

2015-K822

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim July 29, 2015, as Chicken Wing Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges noteworthy events in America's history which deserve special recognition such as the creation of the Buffalo chicken wing; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim July 29, 2015, as Chicken Wing Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Chicken Wing Day; and

WHEREAS, The city of Buffalo, New York lays claim to the birthplace of the chicken wing, and that is why they are often called Buffalo wings; and

WHEREAS, The story goes that Teresa Bellissimo created chicken wings at the Anchor Bar, which she owned with her husband Frank, when her son Dominic and some of his college friends decided they wanted a late night snack to eat; she wanted a fast and easy dish so she deep-fried some chicken wings, and tossed them in butter and hot sauce; and

WHEREAS, Teresa and Frank Bellissimo were not the first Buffalo restaurateurs to realize the potential of chicken wings; John Young had opened Wings'n Things on Jefferson Avenue in 1963; however, his wings were breaded and dressed in a tomato-based sauce; and

WHEREAS, The Anchor Bar's chicken wing recipe turned out to be irresistible to customers and competitors, and other restaurants in town started catching on; Duff's, in Amherst, New York, started selling them in 1969; and

WHEREAS, A few years later, the City of Buffalo declared July 29th as Chicken Wing Day and in its proclamation proudly noted that thousands of

pounds of chicken wings are consumed by Buffalonians in restaurants and taverns throughout the city each week; and

WHEREAS, The name Buffalo is commonly applied to foods other than wings, including chicken fingers, shrimp and pizza which are seasoned with the Buffalo-style sauce or a variation of the sauce; a common variation is found in potato chips, many of which also incorporate a blue cheese flavoring to simulate the complete Buffalo wing experience; and

WHEREAS, Today, there are many flavors of prepared wings available besides the original Hot Buffalo style, including barbecue, lemon pepper, pepper Parmesan, garlic, sweet-and-sour, and honey mustard; since the first introduction, restaurants have introduced hundreds of different flavors of chicken wings; and

WHEREAS, An industry was launched; Americans consumed more than 27 billion chicken wings in 2013; 1.23 billion of those wings were consumed during Super Bowl weekend alone; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim July 29, 2015, as Chicken Wing Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Chicken Wing Day; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.