

2015-K1422

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the New York Botanical Garden

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those who seek to bring recognition to historical places within the State of New York, and in doing so, help to ensure that the complete history of our State and Nation is preserved and shared with present generations of citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the New York Botanical Garden; and

WHEREAS, Established on April 28, 1891, the Lorillard family owned most of the land that later became the New York Botanical Garden; the Garden's creation followed a fundraising campaign led by the Torrey Botanical Club and Columbia University botanist Nathaniel Lord Britton and his wife Elizabeth who were inspired to emulate the Royal Botanic Gardens in London; and

WHEREAS, The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) is a botanical garden and National Historic Landmark located in the Bronx, New York City; the 250-acre site's verdant landscape supports more than one million living plants in extensive collections; and

WHEREAS, Each year over one million individuals visit the Garden's remarkable diversity of tropical, temperate, and desert flora, as well as programming that ranges from exhibitions in the Haupt Conservatory to festivals on Daffodil Hill; and

WHEREAS, NYBG operates one of the world's largest plant research and conservation programs, with nearly 200 staff members; and

WHEREAS, The Garden is also a major educational institution; more than 300,000 people annually, among them Bronx families, school children, and

teachers, learn about plant science, ecology, and healthful eating through NYBG's hands-on, curriculum-based programming; and WHEREAS, Furthermore, nearly 90,000 of those visitors are children from underserved neighboring communities, while more than 3,000 are teachers from New York City's public school system participating in professional development programs that train them to teach science courses at all grade levels; and

WHEREAS, The New York Botanical Garden is an advocate for the plant kingdom; the Garden pursues its mission through its role as a museum of living plant collections arranged in gardens and landscapes across its National Historic Landmark site, through its comprehensive education programs in horticulture and plant science, and through the wide-ranging research programs of the International Plant Science Center; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for the New York Botanical Garden, and for all of the individuals who have worked to bring proper attention to a place and time which merits recognition in the grand panorama of the history of our State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the New York Botanical Garden; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New York Botanical Garden.