

NEW YORK STATE  
SENATE



# Proclamation

## COMMEMORATING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF UPROSE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

**WHEREAS**, It is the custom of New York State Senator Velmanette Montgomery to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerted and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

**WHEREAS**, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with longstanding tradition, I, Senator Velmanette Montgomery, am justly proud to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UPROSE, to be celebrated at its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball on Friday, September 30, 2016, in Brooklyn, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, Established in 1966, UPROSE is a grassroots, multi-ethnic, intergenerational organization working to develop indigenous leadership for the purpose of environmental and social justice; throughout the past five decades, UPROSE has strived to address the numerous challenges faced by frontline communities as a result of the disparate siting of pollution and other environmental burdens; and

**WHEREAS**, Committed to addressing and mitigating social inequities, UPROSE has achieved important accomplishments, including the development of the waterfront and local brownfields, transportation and air quality improvements and educational and youth empowerment campaigns; and

**WHEREAS**, As a member of the Mayor's Sustainability Advisory Board, UPROSE has successfully advocated for the City of New York to engage in a community planning process for environmental justice issues; it has also persuaded the New York State Public Service Commission to develop a process for removing dangerous polluters from the community; and

**WHEREAS**, In addition, UPROSE has intensified its focus on Sunset Park's adaptation to the changing climate in the wake of Superstorm Sandy and other weather related events; and

**WHEREAS**, Currently, Brooklyn's oldest Latino community-based organization, UPROSE continues to work tirelessly to ensure meaningful community engagement, facilitate participatory community planning practices, and promote sustainable development with justice and governmental accountability; and

**WHEREAS**, Moreover, UPROSE is dedicated to developing the leaders of tomorrow, and has sent youth leaders to the United Nations and Antarctica to speak about important issues and to study climate change; it has also organized two New York City Climate Justice Youth Summits, and encouraged young people to attend college with the support of numerous scholarship programs; and

**WHEREAS**, The success of UPROSE is in direct correlation to the efforts of its volunteers and staff, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of this institution and the community of Sunset Park; and

**WHEREAS**, It is the sense of Senator Velmanette Montgomery that when advocacy organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to her attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

**PROCLAIMED**, That the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UPROSE on September 30, 2016 be commemorated; and be it further

**PROCLAIMED**, That a copy of this proclamation be transmitted to UPROSE.

Dated:

**September 30, 2016**

in Witness Whereof, I have Hereunto Set My Hand and Signature

**Velmanette Montgomery**

New York State Senator

25<sup>th</sup> Senate District

