

2011-K327

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 43rd Anniversary of SEBCO Development, Inc., April 1, 2011

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned 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 its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 43rd Anniversary of SEBCO Development, Inc.; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on Friday, April 1, 2011, at the Marina del Rey in the Bronx, New York; and

WHEREAS, The South East Bronx Community Organization (SEBCO) was formed in the fall of 1968, under the visionary leadership of Father Louis R. Gigante; its mission is to provide both affordable housing and to improve the quality of life for the residents of Hunts Point in the Bronx, New York; and

WHEREAS, SEBCO works with urban planners and political leaders to develop schools, recreational facilities, and to redevelop the infrastructure, in order to pave the way for the reinvigoration of the neighborhood's housing stock; through its development efforts, SEBCO has obtained extensive experience undertaking renovation and rehabilitation work in occupied multifamily buildings and is consistently recognized as one of New York City's top subsidized housing developers; and

WHEREAS, While the majority of the housing developed by SEBCO has been for low-income families, seniors and the formerly homeless, it also sponsors the construction and renovation of private houses, coops, and condos; and

WHEREAS, As of June 2000, SEBCO has been involved in the creation of 63 apartment buildings and 358 private homes, coops and condos, representing a total of 2,991 housing units; close to 3,000 families are living in permanent housing that SEBCO has developed over the past 32 years; and

WHEREAS, In addition, SEBCO's focus is not limited to physical housing but to improving all aspects of the community; it provides over 130 hot meals through its Department for the Aging sponsored senior center; its computer learning center prepares community residents for the workplace and over 2,000 residents receive its newsletter six times per year; and

WHEREAS, Other SEBCO services include five after-school programs that provide tutoring for over 80 children; it also provides quality transitional housing for homeless families and operates two TIER II shelters composed of 96 units for New York City Department of Homeless Services; and

WHEREAS, The SEBCO organization can proudly point to the fact that its creation has been a pivotal component in the redevelopment of the Hunts Point community; and

WHEREAS, SEBCO has grown from a small group of community activists into a sizable and sophisticated development company with over 300 employees; it has contributed greatly to the City of New York by providing jobs, commerce, recreational facilities and housing for low and moderate-income residents; and

WHEREAS, Rightfully proud of its record, its accomplishments and its success in carrying out its mission of providing decent, safe and affordable housing, SEBCO stands ready to continue its efforts and mission to better the City of New York and the Bronx for years to come; and

WHEREAS, April 1, 2011, is the 80th birthday of Father Louis R. Gigante, the founder of SEBCO; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this

Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute both to SEBCO Development, Inc. and to Father Louis R. Gigante; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 43rd Anniversary of SEBCO Development, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to SEBCO Development, Inc., 885 Bruckner Boulevard, Bronx, New York, and to Father Louis R. Gigante.