

2013-J3756

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 26 years of dedicated service to the United States Air Force

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge the significant milestones in the distinguished careers of esteemed residents of this noble Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who dedicate their lives to military service merit the commendation and applause of all citizens for their commitment to the preservation of American freedom; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 26 years of dedicated service to the United States Air Force, to be celebrated at a Retirement Ceremony in his honor on Friday, March 7, 2014; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Middletown, New York, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. was born and raised in New York City until 1980, and graduated from Newburgh Free Academy, Newburgh, New York; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and one year later attended Supply Officer School at Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado; he received a Master of Science degree in computer sciences from the State University of New York College at New Paltz; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he attended Squadron Officer School, as well as Air Command and Staff College; he was designated a Distinguished Graduate from Air Force Special Investigations Academy, Air War College and Industrial College of the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. entered military service on September 30, 1987, and will officially retire from the esteemed posi-

tion of Air National Guard (ANG) Advisor to the Commander of the Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) on April 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, In this capacity, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. assists and advises the Commander of the AFSPC on Air Reserve Component operations and integration in the command as the Senior ANG member on staff; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Colonel Morales advises the ANG Assistant to AFSPC, the Director, ANG, and the National Guard Bureau (NGB) on AFSPC's combat capabilities and requirements; the ANG Advisor's Office ensures ANG space and cyberspace forces are organized, trained, and equipped to provide space and cyberspace capabilities to the combatant commands; and

WHEREAS, Prior to assuming his current position, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. served as the ANG Advisor to both the Director of Air, Space, and Cyberspace operations, and the Director of Communications and Information, Headquarters AFSPC; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. is an early pioneer and plank holder of the Department of Defense's (DOD) information operations and computer network defense (CND); he was an essential force at the Pentagon in DOD's early CND efforts, helping to transform CND into a coordinated military mission; and

WHEREAS, A true visionary, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. was selected to be the first Chief of the Air National Guard Information Warfare/Information Operations Division at the National Guard Bureau, and was the primary force behind the first ever ANG Information Operations Units; and

WHEREAS, Among countless awards and decorations, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Medal; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. is the only Air National Guardsmen ever badged and credentialed as a Special Agent in the Air Force

Office of Special Investigations; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Wendy, and their four children, Zavier, Diego, Marco and Alyana, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his extraordinary military career, Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. has earned the admiration, esteem and affection of his friends, family and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved with great respect and reverent esteem, and, on behalf of all of the citizens of the Empire State, to renew its tribute to the men and women of New York State who so courageously served their State and Nation in defense of freedom and democracy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 26 years of dedicated service to the United States Air Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Colonel Felipe Morales, Jr.