

## 2013-J6121

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2014 as Italian Heritage and Culture Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those whose true purpose and worthy accomplishment foster a spirit of community as they promote and recognize the goals and ideals of the rich cultural heritage of the Italian community; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2014 as Italian Heritage and Culture Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Italian Heritage and Culture Committee (IHCC) of New York, a not-for-profit organization, was founded in 1976; Dr. Angelo Gimondo, its Founding Chairman, has played a leadership role since the beginning; its Board of Directors is composed of prominent representatives of New York's Italian-American community, and Joseph Sciamè continues to ably serve as its President and Chairman; and

WHEREAS, IHCC's Board of Directors, consisting of Italian and Italian-American leaders in Greater New York, announced the 2014 theme: Celebrating the Italian American Experience... Legends and Icons...Italian Americans in Sports; and

WHEREAS, The theme, which parallels the theme announced by the Italian Embassy in Washington, D.C., is celebrated throughout this year, especially highlighted during Italian Heritage and Culture Month; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the year, there will be events celebrating the lives and legends of Italian Americans in Sports, several of whom are role models to many; in addition, there will be related lectures, panels, receptions and proclamations at every level of government, in collaboration with the Italian Consulate, educational institutions and

other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Following last year's theme of "Year of Italian Culture in the United States," the IHCC-NY agreed it was appropriate to celebrate the Italian American Experience in Sports, and applaud so many first and second generation Italian Americans, from modest, immigrant origins who reached the top of their field, through hard work, perseverance, good moral character and, love for family and their country, America; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Italian Heritage and Culture, which began as a week-long event, has grown to a month-long celebration of special events and programs organized and hosted by cultural associations, community centers, libraries, schools and universities during the month of October; and

WHEREAS, Each October is dedicated to a specific theme or personality representative of the history and culture of Italy and Italian-Americana; October 2014 marks the 38th Anniversary of Italian Heritage and Culture Month; and

WHEREAS, Italian-American cultural events and programs venerating Italian history, culture, and the many significant contributions of Italians, Italian-Americans, and Italian culture to America will take place throughout New York State during this special month for people of all cultures to enjoy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2014 as Italian Heritage and Culture Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York; and Joseph Sciamè, President and Chairman of the Italian Heritage and Cultural Committee of New York, Inc.