

2015-J692

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 250th Anniversary of Peter Francisco's arrival in America on March 15, 2015

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of Peter Francisco's arrival in America; the descendants of Peter Francisco will be celebrating this event on Sunday, March 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Peter Francisco was a hero of the Revolutionary War whose feats of strength and courage helped our country on its path to freedom; and

WHEREAS, Born in Portugal, this remarkable man emigrated to America as a child, and joined the Continental Army at the age of 16; and

WHEREAS, Peter Francisco participated in numerous historic battles, including the battle at New York's Stony Point; he became known as the "Hercules of the Revolution" for his remarkable achievements during the storming of the fort; he also served at such other important New York sites as Fort West Point, White Plains, and Camp Ramapough; and

WHEREAS, During his military career, Peter Francisco saved the life of his commanding officer, and was wounded several times in battle; he also served as the bodyguard for General Lafayette, and personally witnessed the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown; and

WHEREAS, Peter Francisco's outstanding bravery and fortitude, as well as his loyalty and patriotism, earned him the respect and gratitude of General George Washington; and

WHEREAS, Following the Revolutionary War, Peter Francisco served as a Sergeant-at-Arms of the Virginia House of Delegates, and continued his unwavering commitment to ensuring the rights and freedoms of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, One of the many brave Americans of Portuguese descent who

fought for his country's liberty over the years, Peter Francisco remains a towering figure in United States history, and an inspiration to all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of Peter Francisco's arrival in America; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco.