

2015-J977

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the end of the American Civil War on April 9, 2015, and paying tribute to those who fought

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commemorate the events during the American Civil War and those involved in such events that led to the indelible unity of our great Nation; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the end of the American Civil War and to pay tribute to those who, both in and out of battle, contributed to the preservation of our great Union and the foundation of a greater set of values upon which our Nation has considerably progressed; and

WHEREAS, The American Civil War involved over three million Americans, and was the deadliest of American wars, costing the lives of over 600,000 soldiers and leaving over 400,000 soldiers wounded; and

WHEREAS, New York State provided more than 400,000 recruits to the military, and lost nearly 40,000 soldiers to combat and disease, the greatest loss of any state by the end of the War, while not a single battle was fought in New York State; and

WHEREAS, New York State produced myriad notable individuals among the hundreds of thousands from the State who were vital to the aims of the Union and to the end of the War, including General Gouverneur K. Warren, General John McAllister Schofield, and Union Brigadier General George Crockett Strong; and

WHEREAS, New York State saw many of its African American residents join the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, the first regiment in the Nation that permitted African Americans to join the war, and in doing so promoted the equality of races; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, these regiments lost 35,000 soldiers, second only

to the numbers lost by New York State, in the most admirable pursuit of equality and preservation of meritorious principles; and

WHEREAS, New York's 69th Infantry Regiment, the "Fighting Sixty-Ninth", was an Irish regiment organized in New York State and was a pivotal actor in key battles such as Bull Run, Malvern Hill, Antietam, and Gettysburg; and

WHEREAS, The USS Monitor, constructed in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, was the first ironclad ship commissioned by the Union Navy and was involved in the critical Battle of Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body, attendant to its commemoration of the end of the American Civil War, advances that the State and the Nation sedulously remember the events and individuals who fought for a stronger, unified Nation instilled not only with laudable principles but also with the aspiration to improve; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the end of the American Civil War on April 9, 2015, and to pay tribute to those who fought; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New York State Museum, the New York State Military Museum, The New York Historical Society, The American Legion, The Brooklyn Historical Society, and the Seward House Historical Museum.