

2015-K346

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman for his numerous years of service and dedication to promoting peace and democracy among mankind

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those individuals within the great Empire State who have made strong contributions and who have performed exemplary service on behalf of their community, whether through unique achievement in professional or other endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman for exemplary service to the community and State; and

WHEREAS, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman, a native of Bangladesh, migrated to the United States with his family in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman is a community leader in his Brooklyn neighborhood, where he serves as a community board member for District 12 as well as a member of the Dahill Neighborhood Association, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association; and

WHEREAS, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman is the President of World Trade Promotion Center, Inc., a producer and distributor of American Food and Agriculture commodities, which markets its products under the New Market Foods, American Halal, American Grain Products and Soya American brands; and

WHEREAS, In 1977, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman helped establish the South Asian Association for Co-operation (SAARC) in Bangladesh and the immediate region to combat the spread of Communism, and in 2000, his organization hosted President Bill Clinton and encouraged the United States to

obtain observer status in SAARC; and

WHEREAS, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman met with Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations in 1977, to lobby the U.N. to recognize the

Bengali language as an official language; as a result of these meetings, February 21st was designated as the "International Language Day"; and

WHEREAS, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman began to lobby New York City, under the administration of Mayor Rudy Giuliani, to designate the Bengali language as a second language on official city ballots and in the NYC school system; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, the World Trade Promotion Center sponsored a series of community programs in Dhaka, Bangladesh, which focused on strengthening the future of Bangladesh and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, In response to the tragic events of September, 2001 Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman organized a press conference to condemn the human tragedy and international terrorism and called for unity among all people and nations, and his comments and speech are enshrined in the 9/11 Museum; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to foster better American and Muslim relations, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman participated in a 2005 Washington event which was telecast nationally throughout the United States, and in 2006 was nominated by President George W. Bush to be a commerce advisor; and

WHEREAS, He continues to strive to facilitate better understanding between the United States and the Muslim world, and has worked tirelessly to create unity among people of all walks of life and has sponsored a series of religious and civic events to these ends; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman received the Key to the City in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Franklin Township, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman was honored by the New York City Board of Education with a Service to Education Award and a School Leadership Team Excellence Award after serving as President of IS 220 PTA

from 2006 to 2009; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to publicly commend and highlight the positive and legendary contributions of those individuals who best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation, and who act as role models of leadership to be emulated by others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman for his numerous years of service and dedication to promoting peace and democracy among mankind and to wish him continued future success; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Abu Naser Khaliquzzaman.