

## 2015-J2629

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 250th Anniversary of Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 3 on February 21, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those fraternal organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 3 celebrated on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at the Albany Masonic Temple in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1737, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland granted a warrant to the Second Battalion, First Royal Foot Guards of the British Army; after arriving in North America in 1757, these men moved into the growing army being organized in Albany and initiated or admitted local Masons into their Lodge; and

WHEREAS, Although records of this esteemed organization are sparse prior to 1800, there does exist a copy of the By Laws of Union Lodge No. 1 prepared by Peter W. Yates, Master, which were approved and the Lodge reconfirmed by Sir John Johnson, Provincial Grand Master in 1773; and

WHEREAS, When the Grand Lodge of New York was established in 1781, the early lodges that survived the Revolution seem to have acknowledged the authority of the new Grand Lodge and some members; however many of them, particularly the upstate lodges steadfastly refused to surrender their Provincial Warrants; and

WHEREAS, The date of February 21, 1765, was acknowledged by the members of the Grand Lodge and after several years of controversy and dispute, the original Colonial charter was relinquished and a new one

obtained in 1806, bearing the name of Mount Vernon Lodge No. 3; and WHEREAS, Throughout the Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 3's distinguished 250 year history, many of its members have been important members of the community; over 2200 names can be found as members of Union/Mount Vernon Lodge including Richard Cartwright, Sir William Johnson, Peter W. Yates, Seth Warner, Matthew Visscher, Samuel Belding, Thomas J. Van Alstyne; and

WHEREAS, Organizations of singular distinction such as the Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 3 provide a model for enhancing the quality of life in the community and, as such, merit the grateful praise of the community of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when institutions of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and most joyously commemorate the 250th Anniversary of Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 3 in Albany, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 3.