

## 2015-K699

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 7-14, 2015, as Puerto Rican Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those weeks designated to promote ethnic pride and to enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 7-14, 2015, as Puerto Rican Week in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Puerto Rican Day Parade is held on the second Sunday in June in honor of the nearly four million inhabitants of Puerto Rico and the people of Puerto Rican heritage or birth who reside in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The first Puerto Rican Day Parade was held on Sunday, April 13, 1958, in Manhattan, replacing the former Hispanic Day Parade; in 1995, the parade was incorporated as part of the National Puerto Rican Day Parade; and

WHEREAS, The auspicious parade now hosts over seven major events throughout New York City; and

WHEREAS, This year's theme will have a historical focus since 2015 marks the 50th Anniversary of the death of Pedro Albizu Campos, a Puerto Rican attorney and politician, who spent 25 years in prison; and

WHEREAS, Thought of as the father of the Puerto Rican Independence Movement, Pedro Albizu Campos will be recognized posthumously for dedicating his life to the independence of Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, It is essential that all students learn to understand the

ethnic diversity that is our country; developing ethnic literacy fosters pride in one's own culture and a respect and appreciation for the uniqueness of others; and

WHEREAS, Puerto Ricans have contributed to science, technology, the arts, government and inventions; they have served valiantly to protect our country by serving in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Puerto Rican Week honors the contributions of Puerto Ricans who continue to make contributions toward building a nation where people of many lands and cultures have historically come together; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 7-14, 2015, as Puerto Rican Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.