



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Gustavo Rivera

## State Senator Gustavo Rivera Introduces Resolution Designating June as Immigrant Heritage Month in New York State

GUSTAVO RIVERA June 10, 2014

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**Albany, NY** - Today, State Senator Gustavo Rivera (D-Bronx) introduced a resolution designating the month of June as Immigrant Heritage Month in New York State. The resolution seeks to highlight, recognize and celebrate the countless contributions immigrants have made to our State.

"New York has served as the gateway for generations of American immigrants and as a beacon of hope for those seeking a better life for themselves and their families. From coast to coast, our country's communities and neighborhoods are composed of a patchwork quilt of people from all over the world and their contribution to our culture, society and economy have enriched both our state and our nation," said State Senator Gustavo Rivera. "This resolution seeks not only to celebrate our State's rich heritage, but to raise awareness at the local, state and national level of the countless contributions immigrant communities have made to New York State and beyond. I would like to thank my colleagues in the State Senate for adopting the resolution and joining me in celebrating America and New York's past, present and future."

Today's effort in New York State is part of a nation-wide effort by [Welcome.us](#), a new non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating a United States that is fueled by immigrants from around the world. During the month of June, [Welcome.us](#) is partnering with corporations, media outlets, organizations, celebrities, athletes, faith, civic and political leaders to gather and share inspirational stories of American immigrants.

"We are thrilled that Senator Gustavo Rivera and the New York Senate has recognized the importance of Immigrant Heritage Month," said Tolu Olubunmi, executive director of [Welcome.us](#). "America is a great nation with a rich culture because of the unique experiences each of us have had. Immigrant Heritage Month is a time to celebrate that diversity and to honor the experiences that unite us. Throughout the month of June, we are encouraging all Americans to share their own welcome stories. We are proud to be joined in this effort by Americans from all walks of life including elected officials, celebrities, business leaders and influential social organizations who will help carry our message forward."

"We commend Senator Gustavo Rivera for introducing this resolution to proclaim June as Immigrant Heritage Month in New York, an excellent way to recognize and celebrate this State's 4.4 million immigrants," said Steven Choi, executive director of the New York Immigration Coalition. "This month, we are working with our partners at [FWD.us](#) and [Welcome.us](#) to highlight the many contributions of immigrants- economically, socially, culturally, and artistically - in New York and across the nation. This resolution, which will formalize June as Immigrant Heritage Month, allowing us to uplift the hard work, sacrifice, and joy of immigrants that are a critical part of the fabric of this state."

The resolution to designate June as Immigrant Heritage Month in New York State was adopted by the New York State Senate.

**VIDEO: Senator Gustavo Rivera speaks on Immigration Heritage Month -**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6L9H4J7dCk>