## 2015-J3859

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Church of God, Freeport, New York, to be celebrated on April 16, 2016

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Church of God, Freeport, New York, to be feted at a Celebration Banquet on Saturday, April 16, 2016, at Verdi's in Westbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the year, the faithful members of this vital religious institution will honor its past, celebrate its present, and shape its future; and

WHEREAS, Since 1916, the essential ministries of the Church of God have impacted the citizens of Freeport, New York, and its surrounding communities by enhancing spiritual, social, educational and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, The Church of God has been the home for numerous pastors and spiritual leaders who are currently serving or have served throughout the Nation and the World; through its Christian guidance and support, numerous lives have been transformed; and

WHEREAS, Today, under the luminous leadership of Senior Pastor, Reverend Harold E. Banarsee, the Church of God stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of

enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Church of God, Freeport, New York, to be observed on April 16, 2016, fully confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Harold E. Banarsee, Senior Pastor, Church of God, Freeport, New York.