

## 2015-J3995

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 24, 2016, as Irish Republic Day in the State of New York, in remembrance of the 1916 Easter Rising and commemorating its 100th Anniversary

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

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 24, 2016, as Irish Republic Day in the State of New York, in remembrance of the 1916 Easter Rising and commemorating its 100th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, On Easter Monday, April 24, 1916, Irish patriots, supported by exiled children in America, proclaimed Ireland's ancient right to freedom; they rebelled in Dublin against the might of the British Empire, and, despite the Rising being crushed and its leaders executed, events began which won freedom for 26 of Ireland's 32 counties in an Irish Republic; and

WHEREAS, It is particularly fitting that the 1916 Easter Rising be commemorated due to its historic and indispensable part which Ireland's exiled children in America played in the Rising; and

WHEREAS, The Ancient Order of Hibernians, the oldest and largest Irish-American organization, is dedicated to perpetuating the history and traditions of the Irish people, and to promoting freedom for all of Ireland which aims are deeply connected to the 1916 Easter Rising and Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, New York State is home to a large population of Irish Americans who have made significant contributions to the freedom, liberty,

culture, and economic well-being to both the State of New York and the Nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, The reasoning behind designating the anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising of the Irish Republic as Republic Day is that it would serve as a day of remembrance, understanding and celebration of that momentous event, and of the selfless heroism and integrity of the women and men involved in that strike for freedom; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to observe those cultural events of true purpose and worthy accomplishment that provide opportunities to celebrate their rich ethnic flavor and which strive to preserve their heritage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 24, 2016, as Irish Republic Day in the State of New York, in remembrance of the 1916 Easter Rising; 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.