

## 2017-J981

Senate Resolution No. 981

BY: Senator AVELLA

COMMEMORATING the 60th Annual German-American Steuben Parade on September 16, 2017

WHEREAS, The German-American Steuben Parade is a time for all to celebrate the rich heritage of the German people, unlimited in their contributions to this greatly diverse land of ours; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 60th Annual German-American Steuben Parade on Saturday, September 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, The Steuben Parade is named in honor and memory of General (Baron) Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, the great Prussian military strategist, who was extremely critical to the victory by George Washington's forces over the British army during America's War for Independence; and

WHEREAS, The 2000 United States Census and its 2005 update list Americans of German ancestry as the largest ethnic group in the United States; in 24 of America's 50 states, Germans are the single largest ethnic group; and

WHEREAS, In New York, 28 of the state's 62 counties list Germans as

the single largest ethnic group; the Steuben Parade attracts visitors from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Canada and many other nations, as well as from many American states; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the Steuben Parade, the national flags of both Germany and the United States as well as the Cornflower are presented; these flags were presented at the first Steuben Parade by the Presidents of each country in 1957; each year, these flags are carried by the Honor Guard, the American Legion Post of the American Turners, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Steuben Parade brings together the entire German-American community; groups including members from social and cultural clubs, sports clubs, religious groups and the masons are given the opportunity to march in the Steuben Parade; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 60th Annual German-American Steuben Parade; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the German-American Steuben Parade.