

2017-J3594

Senate Resolution No. 3594

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMEMORATING the 80th Anniversary of the Pulaski Day Parade in Cheektowaga, 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 events 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 commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Pulaski Day Parade in Cheektowaga, New York; and

WHEREAS, Since World War II, Western New York has celebrated the man who once saved George Washington's life by throwing a parade in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Kazimierz "Casimir" Pulaski was a Polish nobleman, soldier, and military commander who has been called the father of the American cavalry; and

WHEREAS, After a failed coup in Poland, Casimir Pulaski came to America on the recommendation of Benjamin Franklin and was added to George Washington's army during the American Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, Casimir Pulaski distinguished himself throughout the revolution, most notably when he saved the life of George Washington; furthermore, his military training and prowess with horse-based tactics helped to win some crucial battles for American independence; and

WHEREAS, Becoming a general in the Continental Army, Casimir Pulaski also created the Pulaski Cavalry Legion and reformed the American cavalry as a whole; and

WHEREAS, At the Battle of Savannah in 1779, while leading a daring charge against British forces, Casimir Pulaski was gravely wounded, and died shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Casimir Pulaski is remembered as a hero who fought for independence and freedom in both Poland and the United States; his legacy is celebrated in multiple cities with large Polish populations, and his death is also commemorated at the federal level on October 9th; and

WHEREAS, The Pulaski Day Parade was originally scheduled in mid-October, and its route brought marchers through the Broadway-Fillmore business district; and

WHEREAS, This renowned event became a campaign spot for politicians seeking to gain attention for upcoming elections, with such high profile individuals as Nelson Rockefeller, Pat Nixon, Betty Ford and John F. Kennedy; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, the Pulaski Day Parade moved times and locations to coincide with the Cheektowaga Polish American Arts Festival; and

WHEREAS, The treasured values of family unity and wholesome

entertainment for all ages are reflected in the Pulaski Day Parade, an event which helps to foster community spirit and cooperation and preserves the beliefs, ideals and values upon which this great State and nation were founded; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Pulaski Day Parade in Cheektowaga, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Pulaski Day Parade Committee, Cheektowaga, New York.