

2013-J357

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Union League Club of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations which devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Union League Club of New York, to be celebrated on Thursday, February 21, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Union League Club of New York is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding; it was established by a group of concerned citizens wanting to preserve the Union and support the administration of President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, The first of the Union League Club of New York's original Articles of Association was to promote "unqualified loyalty to the Government of the United States, and unwavering support of its efforts for the suppression of the Rebellion"; and

WHEREAS, Later, in 1866, an additional article was added that called for "the Club to resist and expose corruption and promote reform in our National, State and Municipal affairs, and to elevate the ideal of American citizenship"; these are core values that have guided the Club for the past 150 years and will continue to do so in the future; and

WHEREAS, The Union League Club of New York is a club that has devoted significant time and effort in helping establish or promote numerous civic, cultural, and military institutions at New York City, New York State and national levels; some notable achievements and contributions of the group include: organizing the 20th, 26th and 32nd regiments of the United States Army during the Civil War; founding both the American Museum of Natural History and the Frick Museum; founding the Julliard School of Music Club; helping found the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; helping organize the New York City

Fire Department; supporting the 369th Black Regiment of the United States Infantry in World War I; and participating in the organization for the construction of Grant's Tomb and the erection of the monuments to Abraham Lincoln and Admiral Farragut in Madison Square Park, New York City; and

WHEREAS, Some of the distinguished members of the Club have included: Chester A. Arthur, 21st President of the United States; Peter Cooper, philanthropist and founder of Cooper Union; Chauncey Depew, United States Senator from New York; Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of Central Park and Executive Secretary of the United States Sanitary Commission; and Thomas Nast, political cartoonist and artist; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Union League Club of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to David K. Ray, Chairman, The Union League Club of New York.