

Assembly Resolution No. 1462

BY: M. of A. Silver

COMMEMORATING the 17th Annual National Puerto Rican Day Parade, to be held in New York City on June 10, 2012

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

WHEREAS, The National Puerto Rican Day Parade affirms the culture, identity and self-esteem of a people; it celebrates a rich heritage and exemplifies Hispanic history and tradition as well as the spirit of an indomitable people; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 17th Annual National Puerto Rican Day Parade, to be held on June 10, 2012, and to recognize, with grateful appreciation, the contributions of Puerto Rican culture, as well as those of thousands of Puerto Ricans, to this State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, The National Puerto Rican Day Parade is the successor to the New York Puerto Rican Day Parade, which, for 44 consecutive years, was the largest cultural event in the United States; attendance at last year's Parade, the 16th Annual National Puerto Rican Day Parade, continued this tradition and is estimated to have been seen by several million, making it one of the largest outdoor events in the United States; tens of thousands of participants marched, and the Parade was televised on a New York City channel, a Metropolitan area Spanish television station, and, via satellite, throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Established to develop national awareness and greater appreciation of Puerto Rican culture, the National Puerto Rican Day Parade is a tribute to the unique Puerto Rican heritage and ethnicity and the role its people play in American society; and

WHEREAS, The National Puerto Rican Day Parade, Inc., through a series of cultural events, including musical productions, plays and art exhibits throughout the United States, and culminating in the National Puerto Rican Day Parade on June 10, 2012, champions the study, improvement, and advancement of Puerto Rican culture and the arts; and

WHEREAS, The vision and purpose of National Puerto Rican Day Parade, Inc. is to enhance the pride and self-esteem of the Puerto Rican people, to promote their economic development, education, cultural recognition and advancement, and to illuminate the achievements and contributions of thousands of Puerto Ricans in the fields of business, government and industry, thereby inspiring and encouraging young people to realize their dreams and ambitions through education and hard work; and

WHEREAS, The theme of this year's parade is "Puerto Ricans and Higher Education," celebrating a proud people and encouraging participation in higher education; and

WHEREAS, With just pride, this Legislative Body is pleased to recognize and commend the National Puerto Rican Day Parade, Inc., recognizing its noble cause and exemplary dedication to preserve, promote and encourage a true understanding and greater appreciation of the spirit and largess of the Puerto Rican people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 17th Annual National Puerto Rican Day Parade, to be held on June 10, 2012, recognizing with appreciation and anticipation, the worthy purpose and promising vision of this event which fosters ethnic pride and enhances the profile of cultural diversity which so strengthens the fabric of the community of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Madelyn Lugo, Chairperson, National Puerto Rican Day Parade, Inc.