State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State is home to one of our country's largest Hispanic populations and their contributions are many and significant, improving the quality of life for citizens of all backgrounds; and

Whereas, as established by an act of the United States Congress, each year Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationwide from September 15th to October 15th, with September 15th marking the anniversary of declared independence for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, followed by the anniversary of Mexico's declared independence on September 16th and Chile's on September 18th; and

Whereas, New York State is proud to join in this annual observance and welcomes the opportunity to pay tribute to our flourishing Hispanic communities and the traditions, history, and heritage of their homeland countries; and

Whereas, this year's theme, "Hispanics: Serving and Leading Our Nation with Pride and Honor," celebrates individuals of Hispanic descent and their achievements at all levels of public and civic service, especially those who have risen to important roles at the national level – from state governors, to members of Congress, to Cabinet members under various presidents, to the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice – and New Yorkers join in honoring them for their contributions to our state and our nation; and

Whereas, during this month-long observance of Hispanic heritage, members of our state's Hispanic communities celebrate their distinctiveness and help reinforce the Empire State's reputation as a cultural capital of the world, as all New Yorkers are inspired to participate in our state's proud and longstanding tradition of expressing appreciation for the history and customs of our many Hispanic communities; and

Whereas, it is fitting that all New Yorkers join in this celebration of cultural pride and tradition, and pay tribute to the contributions Hispanic people have made and continue to make to all facets of life in this great state and nation;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 15 - October 15, 2013 as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

in the Empire State.

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-seventh day of August in the year two thousand thirteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor