



## Moscow Patriarchate representatives attend New York State Assembly and Senate meeting in April declared Russian-American History Month



For the first time in history, the both New York state legislative chambers, Senate and Assembly, passed a resolution initiated by a coalition of organizations of Russian compatriots to declare a Russian-American History Month in the state of New York. The senators also recommended that the governor of the state sign the resolution, thus declaring, on a higher level, April as the Russian-American History Month, the Coordinating Council of Organizations of Russian Compatriots of the USA (KSORS) reports on its website.

According to the Russian-American Cultural Heritage Center, the resolution was moved Senator A. Espailat and Assembly Member G. Linares. Its text was placed on the portal of the state. The resolution will be sent to the Russian ambassador in the USA, Russian Consul General in New York and church hierarchs.

On April 11, the coalition members attended the joint meeting of the State Senate and Assembly to witness the official registration of the resolution as a legislative document. With the blessing of Bishop Ioann of Naro-Fominsk, the delegation representing Russian culture organizations included Archpriest George Konev, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate parishes in the USA, and Archpriest Alexander Golubov, a cleric of St. Nicholas's in New York, who, at the request of senators, blessed the work of the Senate and Assembly.

The Russian-American History Month will begin in mid-April in the State of New York. This year it will be devoted to the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's first space mission.

The Russian-American History Month has been held annually since 2012. At that time, the Russian-American Cultural Heritage Center formed a coalition of ten organizations of Russian compatriots who filed a petition for the Month to the New York State Senate. This year, the Month events are expected to be attended by some 50 organizations of Russian compatriots.

*Website of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA*

*DECR Communication Service*

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