



Westchester County Board of Legislators

Proclamation

Whereas

Westchester County enjoys and celebrates the historical presence and accomplishments of people of many different ancestries and backgrounds including those of Irish descent. These talented and dedicated men and women enrich those around them and serve the betterment of their community, and

WHEREAS, the American *Declaration of Independence*, promulgated by the Second Continental Congress in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, on July 4, 1776, and the principles of Liberty contained therein, has inspired freedom-loving peoples around the world, including those in Ireland; and

WHEREAS, in the general election of December 14, 1918, over 79 percent of the electorate of all Ireland voted for candidates pledged to establish in law a free Irish Republic as proclaimed in arms during Easter Week 1916, and

WHEREAS, those elected and assembled, as **Teachta Dála Éireann (TDÉ)**, deputies to **An Chéad Dáil Éireann** (the First Dáil Éireann), the national assembly of all Ireland, regarded their election as a national self-determination plebiscite, and

WHEREAS, the Irish People were resolved to secure and maintain their "complete independence in order to promote the common weal, to re-establish justice, to provide for future defence, to ensure peace at home and good will with all nations, and to constitute a national policy based upon the people's will with equal right and equal opportunity for every citizen," and

WHEREAS, inspired in part by the American example, the **Irish Declaration of Independence** was promulgated in the Mansion House in Dublin, by **An Chéad Dáil Éireann**, on January 21, 1919, **THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators join with Chairman William J. Ryan in recognizing January 21, 2009 as the 90th Anniversary of the **Irish Declaration of Independence, AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, in recognition of the role played by so many Irish in the achievement of and in the defense of American Independence, that today January 21, 2009, be proclaimed "**Irish Declaration of Independence Day**" in Westchester County, **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the text of this proclamation be carried throughout the County of Westchester for all people of good will to forever know.



Given Under My Hand and Seal this 21st Day of January, 2009

William J. Ryan
Chairman

Richard P. ...
Legislator