



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Citation

**Whereas**, New York State marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act, more commonly known as the "Taylor Law"; this special milestone year provides a unique opportunity to commemorate its significant contributions to New York State's public sector labor relations; and

**Whereas**, the Empire State has been a national leader in recognizing human and civil rights, and has long recognized in its Constitution that labor of human beings is not a commodity, nor an article of commerce, and shall never be so considered or construed; and

**Whereas**, in furtherance of this recognition, the Bill of Rights of the Empire State's Constitution has, since 1938, provided that employees shall have the right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing; and

**Whereas**, effective September 1, 1967, the New York State Legislature passed and Governor Nelson Rockefeller signed into law, the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act, more commonly known as the "Taylor Law"; and

**Whereas**, in the half century since the enactment of the Taylor Law, New York State has led the Nation in promoting harmonious and cooperative relationships between the state and local governments and their employees while protecting the public by assuring the orderly and uninterrupted operations and functions of government; and

**Whereas**, the Taylor Law empowers public employers and the unions representing their employees to enter into written agreements setting forth impasse resolution procedures to be invoked in the course of collective negotiations; and

**Whereas**, to effectuate and administer its policies, the Taylor Law created the New York State Public Employment Relations Board ("PERB"), which has, over the course of the last fifty years, has provided assistance to parties in resolving collective negotiations and contract disputes; resolved disputes concerning the representation status of public employees; prevented and remedied improper employer and union practices; and acted to prevent strikes; and

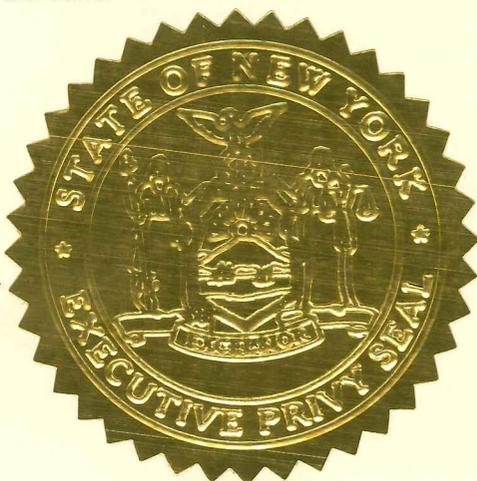
**Whereas**, as a result of the enactment of the Taylor Law, and of the efforts of PERB, the right of public employees to union representation and collective bargaining in New York State has been successfully implemented and upheld throughout the State, while strikes in New York State have been almost entirely eliminated; and

**Whereas**, at a time when collective bargaining is under attack at a national level, these fundamental rights serve the public interest in delivering services to the people of this State effectively and efficiently, while uplifting working people and their families;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, hereby confer this Special Citation commemorating the

## FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAYLOR LAW AND THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD

and recognize the significance of this legislation in promoting and ensuring the most efficient, positive, and productive system of public services rendered for the people of this state.



Governor  
September 2017