

## 2023-K2374

Assembly Resolution No. 2374

BY: M. of A. Rules (DeStefano)

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
June 2024, as Great Outdoors Month in the State of  
New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize  
official months that are set aside to promote the participation of  
recreational activities in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its  
long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to  
memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 2024, as Great  
Outdoors Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the  
observance of National Great Outdoors Month; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month first started as a Great Outdoors Week  
under President Bill Clinton in 1998, to increase jobs and the gross  
domestic product (GDP) of the country by getting people to enjoy and  
appreciate nature; it was so popular, it was expanded to the entire  
month of June; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact  
Act was enacted in order to study America's outdoor recreation economy;  
the report stated outdoor recreation had contributed more than \$412  
billion, which is 2.2% of the total GDP, to the economy, and outdoor  
recreation had the fastest growth of any industry, leading to 4.5

million jobs; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month is a perfect time for people to go out and explore all that nature has to offer, and is dedicated to the country's diverse landscapes, which boast dense forests, long winding rivers, tranquil lakes, rocky mountains, and much more; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month invites us to discover a much-needed new lease on life, both mentally and physically; and

WHEREAS, Being outdoors, surrounded by nature, may reduce anger, fear, and stress and increase pleasant feelings; exposure to nature not only makes a person feel better emotionally, it contributes to their physical wellbeing, reducing blood pressure, heart rate, muscle tension, and the production of stress hormones; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month is a celebration of nature, taking a break from work and our hectic lives, and the outdoors which leads us on the paths of adventure, adrenaline rush, and so much more; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body, representing the people of the State of New York, supports this vital month and encourages the citizens of this great Empire State to participate in Great Outdoors Month activities scheduled throughout the state and to bring attention to such activities that bolster our state's economic and overall well-being; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim June 2024, as Great Outdoors Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be

transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.