

2011-J5010

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 1-7, 2012, as CPR-AED Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in recognizing serious health concerns, proclaiming official weeks to increase awareness of such concerns, which affect thousands of New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 1-7, 2012, as CPR-AED Awareness Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National CPR-AED Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, Heart disease affects men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States, and it continues to be the leading cause of death in America; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 383,000 emergency medical services-treated out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur annually nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Roughly 89 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims die before being discharged from a hospital; sudden cardiac arrest results from an abnormal heart rhythm in most adults, often ventricular fibrillation; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, only 41 percent of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest victims receive bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); and

WHEREAS, Prompt delivery of CPR more than doubles the victim's chance of survival by helping to maintain vital blood flow to the heart and brain, increasing the amount of time in which an electric shock from a defibrillator may be effective; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, an automated external defibrillator (AED), even when used by a bystander, is safe, easy to operate and, if used immediately after the onset of sudden cardiac arrest, highly effective in terminating ventricular fibrillation so the heart can resume a normal, effective rhythm; and

WHEREAS, For every minute without bystander CPR, survival from

witnessed cardiac arrest decreases 7-10 percent; the interval between the 911 telephone call and the arrival of Emergency Medical Services personnel is usually longer than five minutes; therefore, a cardiac arrest victim's survival is likely to depend on a public trained in CPR and AED use and access to these lifesaving devices; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association, the American Red Cross and the National Safety Council are preparing a public awareness and training campaign on CPR and AED use, to be held during the first week of June; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the critical importance of increasing the survival rate from cardiac arrest and of incorporating the tools of CPR and Automated External Defibrillation into aggressive programs in order to save thousands of lives each year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 1-7, 2012, as CPR-AED Awareness Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.