

2013-J3883

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 16-22, 2014, as Flood Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 16-22, 2014, as Flood Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Flood Safety Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has named March 16-22, 2014, as National Flood Safety Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, Flooding is a coast to coast threat to the United States and its territories in all months of the year; and

WHEREAS, National Flood Safety Awareness Week is intended to highlight some of the many ways floods can occur, the hazards associated with floods, and what can be done to save life and property; and

WHEREAS, Floods can happen anytime, anywhere and without warning; and

WHEREAS, Flooding creates emergencies of great concern to New York State, with imminent threat to life and property, and causes hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to homes, businesses and local government infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, A large number of communities across New York State suffered major flooding in 2011 as a result of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, causing millions of dollars in damages and leading to the loss of homes, properties, public infrastructure, businesses and income; and

WHEREAS, In addition, in October of 2012, Hurricane Sandy, also known as Superstorm Sandy, made landfall near Atlantic City, New Jersey, with 90 mph winds; the largest hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic Basin, wind gusts topped 100 mph in some parts of the New York Metropolitan

area; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Sandy caused a record 14.41 foot storm surge at Battery Park in New York City, flooding various parts of lower Manhattan including various tunnels and subway systems, making them inoperable for weeks, some of which are still damaged; and

WHEREAS, The immediate aftermath of Superstorm Sandy included widespread flooding, massive power outages and a system-wide disruption of mass transit service; many low-lying neighborhoods in New York as well as New Jersey were completely destroyed and thousands of homes and businesses were demolished by the record storm surge; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and families are unfortunately still, to this day, struggling to recover after having lost everything in the floods; and

WHEREAS, Damage from a flood is not normally covered under a standard homeowners policy, and residents need to review their homeowners policies and consider their risks for flooding and the need for flood insurance; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body concurs that a public that is well informed of the dangers associated with flooding can improve its preparedness and reduce the occurrence of death, injury and property damage as a result of severe flooding; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 16-22, 2014, as Flood Safety 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.