

2015-K220

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2015, as Medical Identity Theft Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, Medical identity theft is reported to be the fastest-growing crime over the past seven years; and

WHEREAS, Medical identity theft involves the theft of both patient and physician identification numbers and affects between 250,000 and 500,000 individuals per year; and

WHEREAS, The latest Federal Trade Commission data show more than 3,600 physicians and patient cases of medical identity theft were reported in 2009, with more than 12,000 cases reported between 2007 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, of the \$60 billion dollars in health care fraud each year, \$6 billion per year is attributed to medical identity theft; and

WHEREAS, It can take several months, or even up to a year, before medical identity theft is discovered; and

WHEREAS, Victims of medical identity theft are left with few avenues for assistance as compared to other kinds of identity theft; and

WHEREAS, Creating a month dedicated to medical identity theft will raise awareness and educate individuals on ways to protect themselves from victimization; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2015, as Medical Identity Theft Awareness 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 Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.