

2015-K461

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare May 4-10, 2015, as Pedestrian Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks that are set aside to increase awareness of serious safety issues which affect the lives of citizens of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare May 4-10, 2015, as Pedestrian Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, pedestrians are involved in approximately 28% of fatal motor vehicle crashes which occur on New York State's roadways, more than twice the national average of 12%, with 71% of the state's pedestrian fatalities, and 78% of the pedestrian injuries occurring in the five boroughs of New York City; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, approximately 300 pedestrians are killed and nearly 16,000 pedestrians and cyclists are injured each year with pedestrians being 10 times more likely to die than a motor vehicle occupant in the event of a crash; and

WHEREAS, On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 129 minutes and injured in a traffic crash every nine minutes in the United States; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that as many as 99% of pedestrian accidents could be avoided if both motor vehicle drivers and pedestrians took a little extra caution at crosswalks and on roadways; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, the annual comprehensive societal cost of pedestrian fatalities and injuries are nearly \$1.3 billion and \$1.5 billion, respectively; and

WHEREAS, The highest pedestrian death rate is for older adults, ages 65 years and older, at 4.5 deaths per 100,000 residents, which is three times higher than the overall pedestrian death rate; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious safety issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the State, local and national levels to implement new safety counter-measures to prevent pedestrian injuries and fatalities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare May 4-10, 2015, as Pedestrian 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.