

## 2015-J3395

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate and increase awareness of issues that are of significance for the citizens of this great Nation and Empire 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 Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Sexual assault and sexual harassment harm our communities, with statistics showing that one in five women and one in 71 men will survive a sexual assault in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, Young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence and youth ages 12 to 17 were two-and-a-half times more likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, On college campuses, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their time in college; and

WHEREAS, We must work together to educate our communities about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions which condone sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, When we actively get involved we can prevent sexual violence by increasing education, awareness and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, It is time to create a safer environment in the workplace,

the community and the world for all; and

WHEREAS, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future; and

WHEREAS, Sexual assault is a horrific act of crime which deserves the attention of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month; 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.