

## 2015-J3551

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

WHEREAS, Arachnoiditis is a debilitating, progressive, chronic pain disorder caused by inflammation of the arachnoid, one of the three membranes that surround and protect the nerves of the spinal cord; and  
WHEREAS, Arachnoiditis attacks cause the arachnoid to become inflamed because of an irritation caused by chemicals, infection from bacteria or viruses, a direct injury to the spine, chronic compression of spinal nerves, or complications from spinal surgery or other invasive spinal procedures; and

WHEREAS, Arachnoiditis can interfere with the function of one or more of the central nervous system's nerves, thus causing those afflicted with the disorder symptoms including numbness, tingling, or a stinging and burning pain in the lower back or legs; others afflicted with Arachnoiditis can suffer from debilitating muscle cramps, twitches, or spasms; and

WHEREAS, Arachnoiditis knows no age limit, and if left unrecognized, untreated or mistreated, can lead to a variety of symptoms that may result in devastating consequences which can impair the person's ability to function independently; and

WHEREAS, Prevention is paramount, and early diagnosis and intervention is crucial, and correct aggressive treatment by a qualified medical professional can lead to a positive result; and

WHEREAS, Arachnoiditis is believed to affect more females than males, with approximately 11,000 new cases documented in the US each year; and

WHEREAS, The State of New York should help inform the public about the prevalence of this debilitating disease, thus bringing greater attention

to Arachnoiditis so that steps can be put in place for screening and prevention; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim July 2016 as Arachnoiditis Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, and Sheila L. Kalkbrenner, Founder of Art For Arachnoiditis.