

## 2015-J3789

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

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official months set aside to increase awareness of serious 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 proclaim June 2016 as Scoliosis Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Scoliosis Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine which affects two to three percent of the population, or seven million people in the United States; most people are diagnosed between the ages of 10 and 15, although people of any age can be afflicted with this disorder; and

WHEREAS, Severe Scoliosis can have a dramatic impact on a person's quality of life, as it puts pressure on the heart, diminishes lung capacity, and limits physical activity; and

WHEREAS, Effective treatment is available once detected by a medical professional; children who have mild Scoliosis are monitored closely, and in many cases, no treatment is necessary; in other cases, patients are required to wear a brace or may need surgery to keep their condition from worsening; and

WHEREAS, Established in 2008, Scoliosis Awareness Month in the State of New York unites scoliosis patients, families, physicians, clinicians and others to create a positive public awareness, education and advocacy campaign about this affliction; and

WHEREAS, By working together, the Scoliosis community can provide accurate information and proper perspectives through news media and

community awareness events; furthermore, children and parents can be given a better understanding of the signs and symptoms, as well as where to get treatment; and

WHEREAS, Scoliosis Awareness Month helps encourage the sharing of personal stories and works to connect patients so that no family affected by Scoliosis needs to go through the experience alone; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2016 as Scoliosis 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.