

2015-J4412

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the American Cancer Society upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Relay For Life event and paying tribute to its numerous volunteers

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those renowned organizations which devote their energy, resources and thoughtful care to improving the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the American Cancer Society upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Relay For Life event and paying tribute to its numerous volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1985, The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is the world's largest and most impactful fundraising event; each year, more than four million people in over 20 countries take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the many dedicated volunteers at Relay For Life have raised over five billion dollars to fund research and promote cancer awareness through fitness and healthy lifestyle programs aimed at school age kids; and

WHEREAS, The largest funder of cancer research in the world, with the exception of the United States government, The American Cancer Society Relay For Life has funded 47 Nobel Prize winners researching this deadly disease; their combined efforts have contributed to major breakthroughs in cancer treatment and detection and have resulted in the reduction of cancer related death rates by 20% over the last two decades; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Relay For Life funds the Look Good Feel Better, Reach to Recovery and Road to Recovery programs which provide both phys-

ical and emotional support to cancer patients in New York; and

WHEREAS, Relay For Life also helps fund the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge locations in Manhattan, Buffalo, and Rochester, New York; collectively, these facilities provide over 20,000 nights of free lodging to cancer patients and their caregivers who are being treated at some of the world's leading hospitals and cancer treatment centers in New York; and

WHEREAS, Through its toll free phone number and website, The American Cancer Society provides information 24 hours a day, seven days a week to 50,000 New Yorkers annually; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society Relay For Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day cancer will be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, More than just a fundraiser, Relay For Life is truly a life-changing experience; every person in the community has a chance to celebrate, remember, and fight back; and every person who participates joins countless others around the globe as part of this worldwide movement to end cancer; and

WHEREAS, In addition, participation in the Relay For Life gives individuals and organizations the power to help accelerate the advancement toward a future where cancer does not take the lives of friends and family; and

WHEREAS, A community-affirming event, Relay For Life is a time to remember those lost to cancer, an occasion for people to comfort and console one another, and a night to celebrate those who have survived; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Relay for Life is in direct correlation to the efforts of its volunteers and participants, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in

all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves;
and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to The American Cancer Society Relay For Life and to the enthusiastic community volunteers who have made this monumental event a sparkling success for the last 30 years; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the American Cancer Society upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Relay For Life event and paying tribute to its numerous volunteers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The American Cancer Society Relay For Life.