

## 2015-J4709

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare April 11, 2016, as Pet Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Pet Day

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and appreciate the service, companionship, loyalty and happiness pets bring to the lives of their owners; and

WHEREAS, Pet and Family Lifestyle Expert Colleen Paige founded National Pet Day in 2005 to celebrate the joy pets bring to their owners' lives and to create public awareness about the plight of many different kinds of animals awaiting a forever home in shelters and rescue centers all around the globe; and

WHEREAS, Millions of animals across New York and the United States are abused, abandoned and neglected, and it is imperative that awareness is raised; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of New York State are reminded of and encouraged to practice responsible pet ownership; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body recognizes the numerous health benefits of pet ownership, which include lowered blood pressure, stress reduction, social support, exercise and increased happiness; and

WHEREAS, Raising awareness of animal abuse as well as recognizing the benefits of responsible pet ownership will lead to a reduction in animal cruelty, as well as an increase in the overall health and happiness of humans and animals alike, and as such it is appropriate to dedicate one week of the year to our pets; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare April 11, 2016, as Pet Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Pet Day; 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, and Colleen Paige, Founder of National Pet Day.