

## 2015-J4869

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 28-May 1, 2016, as Stand Against Racism Weekend in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in recognizing serious issues, proclaiming official days to increase awareness of such concerns, which affect the residents of New York 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 28-May 1, 2016, as Stand Against Racism Weekend in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Stand Against Racism is a signature campaign of YWCA USA to build community among those who work for racial justice and to raise awareness about the negative impact of racism in our communities; this campaign, which this year will be held from April 28th through May 1st, with the 2016 theme being On A Mission for Girls of Color, is one part of a larger national strategy to fulfill the mission of eliminating racism; and

WHEREAS, Stand Against Racism is designed to build a strong community and partnership between those who are working to achieve racial and social justice and to raise awareness about the negative impact that racism has on today's society; and

WHEREAS, YWCA believes that the inequities that perpetuate racism and social injustice must be addressed vigorously and systematically, by raising awareness and involving individuals in programs; and

WHEREAS, While encouraging discussion is a good start, racism cannot be chipped away one conversation at a time; discussions can help, but they should be complemented with programs that raise awareness about racism and train individuals as well as organizations to stamp it out;

and

WHEREAS, YWCA Brooklyn is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all; and

WHEREAS, Racism hurts everyone and taking a Stand Against Racism is an important step in recognizing the problem and in making a commitment to honor diversity and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people; and

WHEREAS, Racism still exists and is damaging to all people; it is appropriate for all New Yorkers to work towards a State free of racism; all organizations, schools and individuals are encouraged to make a commitment to take a stand or sign a pledge against racism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 28-May 1, 2016, as Stand Against Racism Weekend 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.