

2015-J4834

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2016 as Stroke Awareness Month in the State of New York in conjunction with the observance of American Stroke Month

WHEREAS, Every 40 seconds someone in the United States experiences a stroke and one out of six people will suffer a stroke in his or her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Stroke, or brain attack, is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States, killing 129,000 people annually; stroke can happen to anyone at any time, regardless of race, gender, or age; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, over 50,000 New Yorkers were hospitalized due to stroke and in that same year, over 6,000 died; and

WHEREAS, Each year, about 40 percent of stroke deaths occur in males and 60 percent in females; and

WHEREAS, Almost 795,000 people will experience a stroke this year; about 610,000 are new attacks and 185,000 are recurrent attacks; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is a medical emergency; prompt treatment of a stroke could mean the difference between life and death, complete recovery and disability; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is the leading cause of adult disability; there are more than seven million stroke survivors in the United States, with two-thirds living with moderate to severe disabilities; and

WHEREAS, More than one-third of Americans cannot identify a single symptom of stroke, such as sudden trouble talking, walking or seeing; paralysis, usually on one side of the body; and sudden severe headache with no known cause, even though there is now an easy and F.A.S.T. (Face, Arms, Speech and Time) stroke recognition system; and

WHEREAS, Understanding the warning signs and obtaining emergency treatment can save lives, reduce disability, and possibly even reverse

all impacts of the stroke; and

WHEREAS, People can minimize their risk for stroke by maintaining a healthy blood pressure and weight; and

WHEREAS, The chance of having a stroke more than doubles for each decade of life after age 55; while stroke is common among the elderly, many people under 65 also have strokes; and

WHEREAS, Each year for the past six years, nearly 42,000 patients have been treated for strokes at hospitals in New York State; the estimated direct and indirect cost of stroke for 2010 is \$73.7 billion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2016, as Stroke Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of American Stroke Month, and to encourage all New Yorkers to ask their doctors about stroke prevention and the warning signs of stroke; 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.