

## 2015-K1420

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare September 2016 as Chronic Pain Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Pain is a major public health problem for children and adults and is the number one reason Americans seek medical care; and

WHEREAS, The Institute of Medicine has found that 100 million Americans live with chronic pain as a result of serious illnesses and injuries; and

WHEREAS, As many as 20% of children in the United States have chronic pain, which is pain that is persistent or recurring frequently for more than three months; and

WHEREAS, Chronic pain costs the nation an estimated \$560 to \$630 billion annually in medical expenses, lost wages and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, Pain negatively impacts almost every aspect of a person's life including the ability to work, sleep and engage in social activities as well as adversely impacts pain sufferers' families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Pain Foundation's mission is to inform, empower and advocate on behalf of over 36,000 members throughout the country and all those who live with chronic pain; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Pain Foundation provides education on pain management skills and constructive ways to cope with chronic pain and find fulfillment in life; and

WHEREAS, Increased awareness about the effects of chronic pain results in better outcomes, increased access to good pain care and empowerment and validation for those living with pain; now, therefore, be it

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

Chronic Pain 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.