

2015-K1577

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim the week of September 25, 2016, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks that are set aside to increase awareness of serious illnesses that affect the lives of citizens 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 the week of September 25, 2016, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Week in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Gliomas (DIPG's) are highly aggressive and difficult to treat brain tumors found at the base of the brain; they are glial tumors, meaning they arise from the brain's glial tissue which is tissue that is made up of cells that help support and protect the brain's neurons; and

WHEREAS, These are found in an area of the brainstem, the lowest, stem-like part of the brain, called the pons which controls many of the brain's most vital functions such as breathing, blood pressure and heart rate; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms include double vision, inability to close the eyelids completely, drooping one side of the face, and difficulty chewing and swallowing; and

WHEREAS, DIPG affects 200 to 400 children in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, Brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related death in children; and

WHEREAS, DIPG is the second most common malignant brain tumor of childhood; and

WHEREAS, The median survival is only 9 months; 5-year survival is less than 1 percent; and

WHEREAS, Prognosis has not improved for children with DIPG in over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body supports expanded research to better understand DIPG, develop effective treatments, and provide comprehensive care for children with DIPG and their families; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious health condition, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State and National levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim the week of September 25, 2016, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Week 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.