

## 2021-K419

Assembly Resolution No. 419

BY: M. of A. Miller M

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim  
October 2021, as Cockayne Syndrome Awareness Month  
in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize  
official months that are set aside to increase awareness of serious  
health issues 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 hereby memorializes  
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2021, as Cockayne Syndrome  
Awareness Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Cockayne syndrome, a genetic disease that has no known cure  
and significantly shortens life spans, is a rare disorder characterized  
by an abnormally small head size (microcephaly), failure to gain weight  
and grow at the expected rate (failure to thrive) leading to very short  
stature, and delayed development; and

WHEREAS, Affected children are usually extremely happy and content,  
friendly, inquisitive and very social; and

WHEREAS, The signs and symptoms of this condition are usually  
apparent from infancy, and worsen over time; most affected individuals

have an increased sensitivity to sunlight, and in some cases, even a small amount of sun exposure can cause a sunburn or blistering of the skin; and

WHEREAS, Other signs and symptoms often include hearing loss, vision loss, severe tooth decay, bone abnormalities, hands and feet that are cold all the time, and degenerative changes in the brain; and

WHEREAS, Cockayne syndrome is estimated to occur in two to three per million newborns in the United States and Europe; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious health issue, and more must be done to increase awareness 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 October 2021, as Cockayne Syndrome 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.