

## 2023-J236

Senate Resolution No. 236

BY: Senator PERSAUD

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
December 3, 2023, as International Day of Persons  
with Disabilities in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize  
official days that are set aside to increase awareness of serious issues  
that affect the lives of citizens of New York State and across the  
Nation and World; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its  
long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to  
memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim Saturday, December 3,  
2023, as International Day of Persons with Disabilities in the State of  
New York; and

WHEREAS, The International Day of Persons with Disabilities was  
proclaimed in 1992, by the United Nations General Assembly; the  
observance of the day aspires to promote an understanding of disability  
issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of  
persons with disabilities and to seek to increase awareness of gains  
derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every  
aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, International Day of Persons with Disabilities  
is a day to help everyone become more compassionate and understanding of

the challenges faced by people with disabilities; the day does not discriminate between mental and physical disabilities, and the spirit of the day is to ensure that all people in New York State, the Nation, as well as the World have equal opportunities for work, play, health, and success; and

WHEREAS, The global crisis of COVID-19 is deepening pre-existing inequalities, exposing the extent of exclusion and highlighting that work on disability inclusion is imperative; approximately one billion people with disabilities are among the most excluded groups in our society and are among the hardest hit in this crisis; and

WHEREAS, Even under normal circumstances, persons with disabilities are less likely to access health care, education, employment and to participate in the community; an integrated approach is required to ensure that persons with disabilities are not left behind; and

WHEREAS, As the world recovers from the pandemic, it is imperative that we must ensure that the aspirations and rights of persons with disabilities are included and accounted for in an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 world; this vision will only be achieved through active consultation with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations which bring greater awareness to physical health issues, and assist people in their quest to overcome these obstacles, are a great benefit to the health and welfare of all citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim December 3, 2023, as

International Day of Persons with Disabilities in the State of New York;  
and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be  
transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New  
York.