

2023-J557

Senate Resolution No. 557

BY: Senator WEBB

COMMEMORATING the seventh annual Sock Out Cancer

Day on June 4, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official days 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 is moved to commemorate the seventh annual Sock Out Cancer Day on June 4, 2023, in conjunction with the observance of National Cancer Survivors Day, in solidarity with all New York State residents and family members fighting cancer; and

WHEREAS, These endeavors during 2022 included three Sock Out Cancer benefit concerts featuring Fran Cosmo, former vocalist of Boston and Steve Augeri, former vocalist of Journey - in conjunction with the Philip Myers Band creating this special concert to be presented by Sock Out Cancer; these concerts were performed on October 20, 2022, in Syracuse, New York; October 21, 2022, in Binghamton, New York; and October 22, 2022, in Albany, New York; for each concert, numerous cancer patients and their families were presented with complimentary tickets to provide for a much-needed respite from their daily routines; all net proceeds raised from the concerts were distributed the evening of the event to the local hospital foundations; and

WHEREAS, In furtherance of the cause, events in 2022 included Sock Out Cancer Awareness Day at the Binghamton Black Bears hockey game, March 5, 2022; Sock Out Cancer Awareness Day at the Binghamton Rumble Ponies baseball game, June 5, 2022; Sock Out Cancer Day at the Binghamton Spiedie Fest event, August 5, 2022; Birdies for Cancer at the Dick's Sporting Goods Open, August 19, 2022; and the Broome Oncology 5K Run/Walk on September 11, 2022; during the 2022 school year, the Diocese of Syracuse arranged within the affiliated Catholic Schools to raise money through Sock Out Cancer sock sales to support children with cancer at Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, in February 2023, Sock Out Cancer was notified that it was selected as the 2022 PGA Tour Champion Charity of the Year, as a result, additional dollars will be contributed to match the Birdies for Cancer program that ran during the 2022 Dick's Open; these dollars will also be distributed to the two local hospital foundations in Binghamton, New York; and

WHEREAS, Security Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York and many other individuals and organizations throughout the state, and beyond, have shown their caring and commitment over the past six years by helping to sponsor these events and raise over \$1.32 million for the benefit of financially distressed cancer patients being treated in Binghamton, Syracuse, Albany, New York City, and throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, In addition, events are being planned for 2023 in various locations throughout the state; these events will help provide financial support of Sock Out Cancer's mission to help financially distressed cancer patients throughout the state with non-medical needs such as food, housing, transportation to treatment, etc., thus enabling the

patients to put additional energy into fighting cancer; and

WHEREAS, These concerts and other Sock Out Cancer initiatives are designed to serve as a blueprint for individuals and health service organizations in other regions of New York State and beyond to begin instituting programs benefiting cancer patients needing assistance within their own home communities; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the state, citizens help support the program and show solidarity with their friends and family members fighting cancer by purchasing and wearing Sock Out Cancer's signature multi-colored socks representing the more than 20 different types of cancer; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the seventh annual Sock Out Cancer Day in conjunction with National Cancer Survivors Day on June 4, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Bruce W. Boyea, Chairman of the Board, and Kirk R. Gravely, President & CEO of Security Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.