

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 22, 2013, as Domestic Violence Awareness Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Crime Victims' Rights Week

WHEREAS, As part of executing its mission, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence seeks to eradicate domestic violence and to ensure the provision of effective and appropriate services to victims of domestic violence through community outreach, education, training, technical assistance and policy development; and

WHEREAS, The Coalition's principles and practices prioritize the safety and concerns of victims who are abused, provide support and encouragement for the participation of victims who are abused in the struggle to eradicate personal and institutional violence against them, and provide for a non-competitive atmosphere that fosters open communication, respect, and cooperation among advocates and victims who are abused; and

WHEREAS, Approximately one in four women in the United States will experience physical domestic violence at some point in her life; and

WHEREAS, Females who are 20-24 years of age are at the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence victims experience a host of health and mental health-related consequences at far greater rates than their counterparts who have not been abused; and

WHEREAS, The economic burden of domestic violence in the United States is over \$8 billion per year in direct medical costs and loss of productivity; and

WHEREAS, 15.5 million children in the United States live in families in which domestic violence occurred at least once in the past year, and 7 million children live in families in which severe domestic violence occurred; and

WHEREAS, Children of mothers who are victims of domestic violence are six times more likely than other children to die before the age of five; and

WHEREAS, Only approximately one-quarter of all physical assaults, one-fifth of all rapes, and one-half of all stalking incidents perpetrated against women by intimate partners are reported to the police; and

WHEREAS, The damage caused by domestic violence is not limited by gender, age, ethnicity or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, Public awareness has the potential to increase the identification and reporting of abuse by the public, professionals, and victims themselves, and can act as a catalyst to promote issue-based education and long-term prevention; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 22, 2013, as Domestic Violence Awareness Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Crime Victims' Rights Week; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, and the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence.