

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 15, 2013, as Elder Abuse Awareness Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 15, 2013, as Elder Abuse Awareness Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, Elder abuse affects seniors of all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races, and according to the National Center on Elder Abuse, it is estimated that 10% of elders may experience some type of abuse, but only approximately 20% of cases of elder abuse are reported; and

WHEREAS, There are several types of elder abuse, including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation, all of which harm and may even result in the death of seniors; and

WHEREAS, Elders throughout the United States lose an estimated \$2.6 billion or more annually due to elder financial abuse and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, Elder abuse occurs across the world, nation, and state, both in institutional settings, such as nursing homes and in the homes of seniors, and abuse is committed by both paid caregivers and family members seniors rely on for care; and

WHEREAS, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day has been observed on June 15th since 2006, and the first World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was held at the United Nations and orchestrated by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse; and

WHEREAS, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day increases awareness of the problem of elder abuse and the services available for the protection of seniors; and

WHEREAS, The Coalition on Elder Abuse in Dutchess County, which operates under the auspices of the Mediation Center of Dutchess County, is a group of individuals and private and public agencies working together to protect elders from abuse, neglect and exploitation and to preserve the quality of their lives; and

WHEREAS, This year, the Coalition on Elder Abuse in Dutchess County is hosting World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2013, on Friday, June 14, 2013, at the Cornell Cooperative Extension - The Farm and Home Center, Millbrook, New York; this year's theme is "Take A Stand Against Elder Abuse in the Year of Elder Abuse Prevention", with additional focus on financial exploitation; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is committed to ensuring the safety of all New Yorkers and recognizes seniors' right to live safely and with dignity, so it is also committed to raising public awareness of elder abuse and expanding support for victims; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 15, 2013, as Elder Abuse Awareness Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; 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 Coalition on Elder Abuse in Dutchess County.