

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2013 as Disabilities 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 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, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2013, as Disabilities Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is a national campaign that raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, More than 20 years after the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities, including injured veterans, are making immeasurable contributions to workplaces across our State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, the unemployment rate for people with disabilities remains too high -- nearly double the rate of people without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, New Yorkers with disabilities, like all New Yorkers, are entitled to not only full participation in our society, but also full opportunity in our society; their talents and contributions are vital to the strength of our State's workforce and our future prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Together, we can ensure persons living with disabilities have equal access to employment, and to inclusive, supportive workplaces; and

WHEREAS, It is in the interest of New York State to recognize the achievements which have been made thus far, and to continue these efforts by promoting the awareness and fostering the understanding of persons with disabilities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2013 as Disabilities 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.