

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 17-23, 2013, as New York State Recreation and Park Society Education Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks 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 sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 17-23, 2013, as New York State Recreation and Park Society Education Week in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, New York State Recreation and Park Society (NYSRPS) is the principal organization promoting quality recreation and park opportunities for citizens of New York State through education, training, technical assistance and support of local, county, state and federal recreation and park providers; therefore, in an effort to maintain the optimal individualized and organized forms of recreation and the creative use of leisure time that are vital to the happy lives of all New Yorkers, NYSRPS promotes an annual conference with the sole purpose to revitalize the park and recreation professionals; and

WHEREAS, Park, leisure time and recreation programs throughout the State of New York encompass a multitude of activities that can result in personal accomplishment, self-satisfaction and family unity for all citizens, regardless of their background, ability or age; all New Yorkers should recognize the positive benefits that recreation and leisure services bring forth for the good of our communities; and

WHEREAS, Intrinsic to the outcomes of professional recreation, leisure time and park services include: attracting tourists; attracting businesses; attracting retirees; enhancing real estate values; reducing taxes; stimulating equipment sales; reducing environmental stress; community regeneration; cultural and historical preservation; facilitating healthy lifestyles; alleviating deviant behavior among youth; raising levels of educational attainment; and alleviating unemployment distress; and

WHEREAS, The landscape of our culture has changed and thereby the ways in which individuals choose to spend their 'free time' has as well; baby boomers are aging, living longer, healthier lives due to better education and medical breakthroughs; and

WHEREAS, Baby boomers are seeking to stay fit to avoid the unbearable expense of short and long term care; younger adults are engaging in more vigorous activities, by the advent of technology; and

WHEREAS, Young people are learning life skills building character qualities that last a lifetime; in addition, they become aware of how to be a team player, motivate others, set goals, suffer setbacks and to achieve dreams; there are active options available to fight the current epidemic of obesity and other societal ills which will directly affect generation Z; and

WHEREAS, March is traditionally the month in which NYSRPS holds its Annual Conference as a measure to foster education and a renewal of the park, recreation and leisure service professionals in New York State; it is worth noting that New York State is a leader in the forefront understanding the health and wealth of our nation is inherently dependent upon the community partners that make these healthy living programs happen for the betterment of all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 17-23, 2013, as

New York State Recreation and Park Society Education Week 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.