

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2015, as Cancer Immunotherapy 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 certain treatments that could benefit and affect the lives of the citizens of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2015, as Cancer Immunotherapy Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, 14.1 million people worldwide are diagnosed with cancer, 8.2 million of whom will die; that is one person every four seconds; and

WHEREAS, This year alone, more than 107,000 New York residents will be diagnosed with cancer, more than 34,000 of whom will die; and

WHEREAS, Cancer immunotherapy, treatments that harness and enhance the innate powers of the immune system to fight cancer, represents the most promising new cancer treatment approach since the development of the first chemotherapies in the late 1940s; and

WHEREAS, Because of the immune system's extraordinary power, its capacity for memory, its exquisite specificity, and its central and universal role in human biology, these treatments have the potential to achieve complete, long-lasting remissions and cancer cures, with few or no side effects, and for any cancer patient, regardless of their cancer type; and

WHEREAS, For more than 60 years, the Cancer Research Institute has been the pioneer in advancing this highly promising new class of treatment; because of this investment, cancer immunotherapy today is a highly active and exciting field, with unprecedented potential to deliver on the decades-long promise of discovering, developing, and delivering safe and effective treatments that make a meaningful difference in the lives of patients fighting the disease; and

WHEREAS, A series of events have been scheduled to take place throughout the month of June to not only teach more about global efforts to mobilize the immune system against cancer, but also to provide opportunities for individuals to get involved and to help save the lives of more cancer patients; and

WHEREAS, White Out Cancer Day is a day-long fundraising and awareness event to be held on June 12, 2015, where individuals wear white in support of Cancer Immunotherapy Month; in addition, 45-minute free webinars will be offered featuring informative updates from leaders in cancer immunotherapy; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of cancer immunotherapy, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State, and national levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2015, as Cancer Immunotherapy 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.