

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim February 20-27, 2016, as FFA Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to support and promote the historic and significant observance of FFA Week in the State of New York; 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 February 20-27, 2016, as FFA Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National FFA Week; and

WHEREAS, More than half a million members across the nation will participate in National FFA Week activities at both the local and state levels; and

WHEREAS, The National FFA organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education; and

WHEREAS, The FFA motto: Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve, gives its members words to live by; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1928, as the Future Farmers of America, FFA brought together students, teachers and agri-businesses to solidify support for agricultural education, and in Kansas City's Baltimore Hotel 33 young farm boys charted a course for the future; and

WHEREAS, The National FFA organization operates under a Federal Charter granted by the 81st Congress of the United States, and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture; the U.S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for the FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs; and

WHEREAS, In accomplishing its mission, FFA develops competent and assertive agricultural leadership; increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being; strengthens the confidence of agriculture students in themselves and their work; promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career; encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs; encourages wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of the community; develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction; builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism; promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people; promotes healthy lifestyles; and encourages excellence in scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Agricultural education in New York affects and instructs students in all parts of the State, and through their efforts, the officers and members of New York FFA are achieving increased levels of national recognition for themselves, their schools and communities, as well as New York agriculture; and

WHEREAS, FFA members are also working to ensure a bright economic future for the agriculture industry in New York State which contributes nearly \$5 billion to our State's economy and is a major engine for job creation; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and applaud the leaders of commerce and industry whose accomplishments contribute to the economic health and prosperity of the communities of the State of New York and to the quality of life of its people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim February 20-27, 2016,

as FFA 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.