

**BY:** Senator ORTT

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2017 as Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Career Exploration Month in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** New York State's commitment to education is unparalleled; and

**WHEREAS,** Those individuals and institutions devoted to improving the quality of life for others, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self-worth, are deserving of the highest praise and recognition; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2017 as Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Career Exploration Month, in conjunction with Armed Forces Day/Week (20 May 2017) in the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Career Exploration Program is a comprehensive career aptitude evaluation which is federally funded and available to schools free-of-cost; and

**WHEREAS,** The audience are students primarily between 16 and 24 years of age who are attending a secondary or post-secondary education; and

**WHEREAS,** The decision to enter college, technical or vocational school, military service or the civilian world of work after high school is an important one; the ASVAB-Career Exploration Program (CEP) is designed to help students learn more about themselves and the world of work, identify and explore potentially satisfying occupations, and develop an effective strategy to realize their goals/degree major; and

**WHEREAS,** The main components of the ASVAB-CEP are: Multiple-Aptitude Assessment, Find-Your-Interest (FYI) Inventory, and Career Exploration Tool; and

**WHEREAS,** Multiple-Aptitude Assessment: the ASVAB test covers eight areas including science, word knowledge, mathematics, and mechanical comprehension; it assesses a student's ability to learn new skills and is a predictor of success in training and education programs; and

**WHEREAS,** Find-Your-Interest (FYI) Inventory: each student is given a 90-item interest inventory based on John Holland's widely accepted theory of career choice; upon completion of the FYI Inventory, students will receive three interest codes to use with the Department of Labor's OCCU-Find career exploration tool; and

**WHEREAS,** Career Exploration Tool: OCCU-Find contains information on more than 1,000 occupations sorted alphabetically, by interest codes, and by career cluster which provides students a variety of ways to identify occupations that will be satisfying; many of the occupations in

the OCCU-Find feature career videos highlighting a-day-in-the-life glimpse at that occupation; and

**WHEREAS,** The secondary or post-secondary school students would receive a post-test interpretation session/career workshop where they could learn about how to use the ASVAB results in identifying and exploring potentially satisfying occupational fields/careers, educational options, scholarships, employment statistics, and a variety of resources to make a well-informed career decision; and

**WHEREAS,** ASVAB participants are not under any obligation to the military as a result of taking the ASVAB; and

**WHEREAS,** The utilization of the ASVAB-CEP as a career planning tool could certainly attribute to a reduction of student loan and potentially, fewer federal loan defaults; and

**WHEREAS,** Currently, there are 137 post-secondary schools/universities in the State of New York, from Adelphi University to Yeshiva University; and

**WHEREAS,** As of June 30, 2015, there were 50,683 college students in default of their Federal Perkins Loan over or equal to 240 days; the Total Principal Outstanding on loans-in-default over or equal to 240 days in the amount of \$178,271,175.00; and

**WHEREAS,** Federal student loans are borrowed funds that must be repaid with interest; failure to repay a loan can result in default; the New York State default rate is 9.37% which is below the U.S. National Aggregate 11.39%; and

**WHEREAS,** As a result, utilization of the ASVAB-CEP could reduce or prevent additional cost associated with majoring in the wrong collegiate degree program; by proclaiming May 2017 as Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery Career Exploration Month in the State of New York, it gives counselors more options to test 10th, 11th and 12th grade students; and

**WHEREAS,** From time to time, society calls upon these individuals and institutions to be recognized for the significance of their contributions and efforts to assist others in developing the skills necessary to be successful citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** New York State has recognized for many years the importance of a quality educational system and its relationship to the economic and social well-being of all its citizens; an important part of every school curriculum should be a thorough, comprehensive college and career readiness preparatory program which aids students in the process of career selection; and

**WHEREAS,** Excellent school systems attempt to maximize all available resources to prepare students for vital contributing roles as citizens of this State and Nation; New York schools continually strive for improvement in their programs and services; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 2017 as Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Career Exploration 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.