

BY: M. of A. Brabenec

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim September 17-23, 2017, as Constitution Week in the State of New York in conjunction with National Constitution Week

WHEREAS, On September 17, 1787, the United States Constitution was signed by 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia's Independence Hall; by joint resolution of Congress on August 2, 1956, the President may proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as "Constitution Week"; and

WHEREAS, "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America"; our Forefathers laid the foundations for a great Nation with these words, written more than 200 years ago, adopting a Constitution that has since proven to be an enduring and true guide for American government; and

WHEREAS, The United States Constitution is a powerful framework for establishing and preserving liberty, justice, and opportunity; it has enabled us to prosper as a Nation and thrive as a people through more than two centuries of political change, social transformation, and economic challenge; and

WHEREAS, The Founders of our great Nation secured the principles expressed in the Declaration of Independence by establishing a government that derives its power from the consent of the American people; the government established by the Constitution formed a remarkably resilient structure, balancing necessary authority with inherent freedoms, national unity with individual rights, and Federal interests with State powers; and

WHEREAS, In addition, in structuring the Constitution, the Founders also recognized the potential for necessary change and included a constitutional amendment process, which has proven to be a vitally important mechanism for achieving equality and fairness for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Today, the United States stands as a beacon of democracy and tolerance, inviting the nations of the world to pursue justice, provide freedom, and protect liberty for their people; drawing strength and guidance from the Constitution, the people of the United States work to ensure that the blessings of American liberty endure and extend for generations to come and remain resolved and vigilant in the defense of life and liberty against tyranny and terror; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Legislature affirms its commitment to exercise a leadership role in urging all its citizens to support

Constitution Week in the State of New York in conjunction with the observance of National Constitution Week; and

WHEREAS, It is most appropriate that this great Empire State recognizes the worthy and beneficial purposes of celebrating Constitution Week in the State of New York in conjunction with National Constitution Week; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to events that serve to bring people together for the united purpose of actively pursuing improvements in their communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim September 17-23, 2017, as Constitution Week in the State of New York in conjunction with National Constitution Week; 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.