

Assembly Resolution No. 485

BY: M. of A. Glick

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim
June 2019, as Gay Pride Month in the State of New
York

WHEREAS, Members of this Legislative Body support the rights, freedoms, and equality of those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ); and

WHEREAS, Those who took a stand for human rights and dignity at the Stonewall Inn in New York City on June 28, 1969, are among the pioneers within this movement; this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots; and

WHEREAS, The LGBTQ Stonewall protestors were subject to police harassment and invidious discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and expression; and

WHEREAS, This decisive moment in history was followed by the creation of gay rights organizations in every major city in the United States within two years of the Stonewall uprising; and

WHEREAS, The Stonewall uprising has been followed by many positive progressive historic moments; and

WHEREAS, One year after the Stonewall uprising, on June 28, 1970, the first gay pride marches took place in New York City, Los Angeles and San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Each year, since the Stonewall uprising, the end of June has been celebrated as gay pride with LGBTQ pride marches and other events being held throughout New York State, and throughout the world; this 50th Anniversary is being celebrated as World Pride Day; and

WHEREAS, In December of 1973, the board of the American Psychiatric Association voted to remove homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, A Marriage Equality Bill first passed the New York State Assembly in 2007; and

WHEREAS, The Marriage Equality Act passed both houses and was signed into law in New York State on June 24, 2011, making the state the sixth in the nation to do so; and

WHEREAS, This more than doubled the percentage of Americans who lived in states with fair marriage laws and affected more than 42,000 same-sex couples raising 14,000 children in the state; and

WHEREAS, The year 2012 marked the first year all 50 States in the United States had at least one openly LGBTQ elected official; and

WHEREAS, On June 26, 2013, New York State resident Edith Windsor, represented by Roberta Kaplan, won her case against the United States; the Supreme Court ruled that section three of the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional and the Federal Government cannot discriminate against married lesbian and gay couples for the purposes of determining Federal benefits and protections; and

WHEREAS, On June 9, 2015, Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced that the Military Equal Opportunity policy has been adjusted to include gay and lesbian military members; and

WHEREAS, On June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court ruled that states cannot ban same-sex marriage; and

WHEREAS, On June 24, 2016, then President Barack Obama announced the designation of the first national monument to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights; the Stonewall National Monument will encompass Christopher Park, the Stonewall Inn and the surrounding streets and sidewalks that were the sites of the 1969 Stonewall uprising; and

WHEREAS, On April 4, 2017, the 7th District Court of Appeals ruled that the Civil Rights Act prohibits workplace discrimination against LGBT employees, after Kimberly Hively sues Ivy Tech Community College for violating Title VII of the act by denying her employment; and

WHEREAS, The month of June reminds us of all the achievements of the past and highlights the work that remains to be done; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2019, as Gay Pride 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.