

**BY:** Senator THOMAS

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 23-31, 2022, as Red Ribbon Week in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks that are dedicated to increasing awareness of serious and important issues impacting citizens of New York State; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 23-31, 2022, as Red Ribbon Week in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Red Ribbon Week; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1980, The National Family Partnership was established as a grassroots, nonprofit organization by a group of concerned parents committed to playing an active role in drug prevention education and advocacy; and

**WHEREAS,** The National Family Partnership organized the first Nationwide Red Ribbon Campaign after the murder of DEA Agent Enrique Camarena; parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons to represent their commitment to increasing awareness of the killing and destruction caused by drugs in the country; and

**WHEREAS,** Enrique Camarena believed that one person could make a difference; this belief was used as the model at the start of the Red Ribbon Campaign and it continues to be the belief as the campaign reaches the lives of millions of American children and families; and

**WHEREAS,** Under the leadership of President Peggy B. Sapp, the National Red Ribbon Campaign has become an annual national event that acts as a major force in raising awareness and mobilizing communities in the fight against drugs; and

**WHEREAS,** "Drug Free Looks Like Me," is the winning theme for the 2022 Red Ribbon Week; created by Marin Wurst, a 7th grader at Solon Middle School in Solon, Ohio, the theme will continue to be used all throughout 2022 in thousands of schools and communities across the country; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize Red Ribbon Week in order to raise awareness regarding the serious issues surrounding drugs today and to promote the betterment of drug education and prevention in New York State and beyond; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 23-31, 2022, as Red Ribbon 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 Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.