

**BY:** Senator BIAGGI

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
April 2022, as Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Month  
in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** There is no test of society more important than that of how it treats its children, its most precious resource; and

**WHEREAS,** The children of today are the citizens and leaders of tomorrow; their health, well-being, and development are of paramount importance to the people of the State of New York and, as such, it is the sense of this Legislative Body that every child merits the encouragement, protection, and support of all; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2022, as Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Month; and

**WHEREAS,** Sex crimes, particularly those committed against children, are among the most heinous and deeply disturbing in our society; they leave lifelong scars, have multiple victims, and require an all-encompassing strategy to combat; and

**WHEREAS,** In Federal fiscal year 2019, 4.4 million reports were made to child protective services; and

**WHEREAS,** On a national level, one in five girls and one in 20 boys are victims of sexual abuse, and the majority are abused by a family member or family acquaintances they trust and respect; and

**WHEREAS,** Studies have found that approximately 20.7% of children are sexually abused; that is about 43,000 children a year in New York State; and

**WHEREAS,** Effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

**WHEREAS,** By calling attention to the serious and significant problem of child sexual abuse, the observation of Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Month exemplifies a worthy commitment to the children of New York State, encourages improvement in the quality and availability of pertinent programs, laws and services, and provides an opportunity to increase awareness about all aspects of this important matter; and

**WHEREAS,** It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State and National levels; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 2022, as Child Sexual Abuse Prevention 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 Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.