

BY: Senator BAILEY

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim
September 26 to October 2, 2022, as Diaper Need
Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body to acknowledge and recognize the aspects of life that affect the citizens of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Caring for loved ones is a noble but difficult endeavor, and for parents, raising a child is the most important task in their life and diapers are a key necessity; and

WHEREAS, According to the Stanford University School of Medicine, "diapers are essential care items, reducing the incidence of infection, rashes, and other poor health outcomes for babies. They are also required for access to many early educational programs"; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Diaper Bank Network, "diapers are as essential to a baby's healthy development as a mother's love. Keeping infants and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy is key to building a solid foundation for all children to reach their full potential. But one in three families in disadvantaged communities struggle to provide clean diapers for their baby"; and

WHEREAS, Adults and senior citizens entering their golden years often need adult diapers; this enables caregivers to maintain cleanliness and avoid germ related illnesses and infections that may threaten the wellbeing of those reaching an advanced age; and

WHEREAS, While adult diapers are often overlooked in research and statistics on diaper use, adult diaper sales are expected to surpass sales of baby diapers in the near future; the adult diaper market globally reached a value of US \$16.7 billion in 2021 and is expected to reach US \$26.1 billion by 2027; and

WHEREAS, Diapers are a heavy and relentless expense for parents caring for infants and for seniors; and

WHEREAS, Despite the importance of diapers, the Stanford University School of Medicine reports that "diapers remain highly inaccessible: the poorest families spend 14% of their income on infant diapers and spend twice as much as those who can buy diapers in bulk. Even then, diapers are not covered by programs such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), creating alarming disparities in access"; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Diaper Bank Network, two-parent households in New York state spend 13% of their income on the cost of infant care, and single-parent households in New York State spend 46% of their income on the cost of infant care; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the National Diaper Bank states "the genesis of the diaper bank movement extends back to 1994, when Resolve, Inc., a small consulting firm in Tucson, Arizona, held a diaper drive during the holiday season to assist a local crisis nursery"; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Diaper Bank Network website, the "diaper bank movement of today includes more than 200-member diaper bank programs assisting families in 50 U.S. states, and the District of Columbia" including 17 here in the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, To help those in need, the 17 diaper banks connected to the National Diaper Bank Network in New York state distribute 3,797,753 diapers annually, helping 6,330 infants and toddlers monthly; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this legislative body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim September 26 to October 2, 2022, as Diaper Need Awareness Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York; The National Diaper Bank Network; The Junior League of Westchester; The Junior League of Rochester Diaper Bank; The Central New York Diaper Bank Inc.; (914) Cares; The Food Pantries of the Capital Region; Baby Steps Baby Pantry at Christ Lutheran Church; The HopeLine; Little Essentials; The Allied Foundation; The Food Bank of the Southern Tier Diaper Bank Program; The Brooklyn Diaper Project; Moms for Moms NYC; NYC Mammias Give Back Inc.; Every Bottom Covered; GOOD+ Foundation; Her Village Inc., and the Archdiocese of New York Diaper Distribution via Catholic Charities.