

**BY:** Senator PERSAUD

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2021, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York

**WHEREAS,** It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate and increase awareness of issues that are of significance for the citizens of this great Nation and Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2021, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS,** Sexual assault and sexual harassment harm our communities, with statistics showing that every 73 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted, and every nine minutes, that victim is a child; and

**WHEREAS,** Only 5 out of every 1,000 perpetrators will end up in prison; and

**WHEREAS,** 1 in 33 American men have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their life; and

**WHEREAS,** A majority of child victims are 12-17; of victims under the age of 18, 34% of victims of sexual assault and rape are under the age of 12, and 66% of victims of sexual assault and rape are 12-17; and

**WHEREAS,** 13% of all students experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation; and

**WHEREAS,** We must work together to educate our communities about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions which condone sexual assault; and

**WHEREAS,** When we actively get involved we can prevent sexual violence by increasing education, awareness and community involvement; and

**WHEREAS,** It is time to create a safer environment in the workplace, the community and the world for all; and

**WHEREAS,** April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future; and

**WHEREAS,** Sexual assault is a horrific act of crime which deserves the attention of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2021, as Sexual

Assault Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, and to the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault.